



## DISPELLING THE MYTHS OF DRUG ADDICTION ON VANCOUVER'S DOWNTOWN EASTSIDE

**VANCOUVER (CUP)**—On any given morning on the corner of East Hastings and Columbia in front of the Radio Station Café in Vancouver, a drug dealer can make up to \$35 000. Their customers approach them in a nonchalant fashion, do their business and quickly scuttle off in various directions.

Some may venture back to their hotel rooms, rented out at cheap monthly rates. Many will drift into the nearest alley and quickly dose. But these days, most will probably walk into Insite, the city's highly publicized and contentious safe injection facility, open to all and just eight doors down.

Even on the slowest day, the Vancouver Area Network of Drug Users (VANDU), estimates that nearly 15 000 heroin injections take place in the Downtown Eastside, and Tyrone Caldwell, 39, used to take his fair share.

Caldwell spent the last 14 years of his life dabbling with different drugs, but it was during the last five years that things began to get really heavy. After nearly a decade of drug use, he lost control, and in order to support his \$300-a-day cocaine habit, started dealing narcotics himself, including heroin.

It was in May that he went into the facility as he did on any normal day. He proceeded into the injection area to shoot up. The area is the width of a desk, with a mirror in front and two walls, giving an individual the suggestion of privacy. Immediately after dosing, Caldwell had an ominous feeling that something was not right.

"The minute the buzz or rush started coming on, I knew it wasn't a cocaine rush," he says. "I knew I was in trouble and that's the last thing I remember."

Caldwell was put into an ambulance after the paramedics gave him a shot of Narcan, a drug that reverses the effects of opiates, to revive him. Caldwell later discovered that what he had injected into himself wasn't just cocaine—it was a nasty trail mix of heroin and cocaine, which led to his overdose. And it was because of the staff at Insite that Caldwell didn't die that day.

"If Insite wasn't there and I was in the alley, I'd be dead," he says.

Caldwell isn't the only one. Since its inception in 2003, Insite has grown in popularity among drug users in the Downtown Eastside, averaging around 700 visits per day. Section 56 of the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act allows Insite—in addition to doctors prescribing methadone for those in rehab—to have legal possession of controlled substances. Because of this exemption, Insite is currently the only place in Canada where a person can legally carry narcotics.

Before Insite, the number of overdoses and rates of infection for HIV and Hepatitis A, B, and C were soaring in the Downtown Eastside community. According to Anne Livingston, a project coordinator for VANDU, deaths by overdose climbed from 35 in 1989 to 350 in 1994. The 1995 Vancouver Injection Drug User sampled 5000 users in the Downtown Eastside and esti-

mated that the prevalence of HIV/AIDS in the area was around 40 per cent while Hepatitis C hovered around 90 per cent.

The community was dying.

With the alarming rates of infection and death escalating rapidly, the city soon realized traditional drug enforcement and treatment strategies were failing. The city subsequently adopted its "Four Pillars Drug Strategy," which consists of harm reduction, prevention, treatment and enforcement. Insite was implemented as a progressive step towards increasing harm reduction, though some argue it promotes all four pillars.

Open 18 hours a day, Insite has become one of the busiest safe-injection facilities in the world. There's no limit to how many times a day a person can use the site. Accounts of its successes have been documented. There are over 7000 registered members and though there have been 500 overdoses, none have resulted in death. Furthermore, Insite has found that users of the site are twice as likely to get into detox.

While there's no evidence yet to suggest that the rates of HIV/AIDS have gone down since Insite opened, neither have there been any studies investigating this issue. It would be counter-intuitive to think that the facility has been anything less than a bastion of prevention.

In spite of this, at the end of August, the future of the facility was in limbo. The federal exemption that allowed Insite to operate was due to expire on 12 September and Canadian Health Minister Tony Clement, rather than extending it another three years, reluctantly bowed to public pressure and renewed the exemption until December 2007. The scientific evidence, according to Clement, was inconclusive.

"Do safe injection sites contribute to lowering drug use and fighting addiction? Right now the only thing research has proven conclusively is that drug addicts need more help to get off drugs," says Clement in a media release. "Given the need for more facts, I am unable to approve the current request to extend the Vancouver site for another three-and-a-half years."

Despite scientific evidence and public support of the facility from all levels of government, the Ministry of Health opted to shy away from granting proponents of the site its full demands—the disconnection between those in Ottawa and the people at the frontlines is unsettling.

Jeff West, a coordinator at Insite, has witnessed first-hand the changes the facility has brought to the Downtown Eastside. He's seen its successes and its failures. His modus operandi is to dispel the myths circulating in Ottawa and educate people about the many other services that Insite provides.

"We teach people. We never hold or touch the needle—that's the bottom line," West says. "[The staff] can tie people off, help them find a vein, [pick] what kind of angle to insert the needle. We also have a prosthetic arm that has veins and use that as a teaching tool."

West stresses the strictness of these guidelines: if someone dies and they have gone beyond their immediate duties, it's an automatic charge of manslaughter.

But the big appeal for Insite, West says, is giving a shelter to the people living in squalor. It provides the lost and hopeless a place to go.

"People are complex souls. Addictions are a result of other stuff going on. Ultimately you could really just focus on the addiction and they can go to detox," West says.

Caldwell and many others attest to the success to this program.

"If Insite wasn't there ... I really wouldn't be here," says Caldwell, who now volunteers at Insite. "I'm living on borrowed time and I'm here to help them. No questions."

When her sister became a crystal methamphetamine addict, Darcy (who is using only her first name to protect her identity) took custody of her sister's children. She was only 22. For the next 25 years, she was an operating engineer in northern BC, making an almost six-figure income for many years.

But after injuring her back and losing the pension she spent her entire life working for, everything came crashing down. She eventually moved to the Balmoral Hotel in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside. She had nowhere else to go.

On welfare for the first time of her life, she started using drugs. From A to Z, she did it all, everything except crystal meth—something she promised herself she would never do after seeing it kill her sister.

"It was from 25 years of being straight, I wanted to experience it all. You name it, I did it. My sister was a junkie; it was like I wanted to

By Eric Szeto  
CUP Western Bureau Chief  
Photos by Max Wang



experience what she experienced.”

At the height of her drug addiction she was visiting Insite nearly four times a day.

“What I went for was the congeniality and I’d go there because it’s a nice, clean place. I don’t actually inject anymore.”

She can barely describe some of the atrocities she’s seen because they are so egregious. Before Insite, she says, women were contracting HIV at enormous rates, which she attributes to the fact that women are most vulnerable in the Downtown Eastside.

Often times, she says, prostitutes, too messed up to do their own drugs, ask their pimps to shoot them up. But instead of using a clean needle, her pimp uses a “rake,” a needle that has already made the rounds, which is almost inevitably tainted and ridden with disease.

Insite, she says, offers these women an alternative.

“This is a place where women go to control disease,” she says.

Darcy admits there are many misconceptions about Insite, and says given the lack of understanding about addiction in general, it’s not surprising.

This lack of understanding was clearly shown in an online *Globe and Mail* debate between former mayor of Vancouver and current Senator

**“It’s considered illegal. But if I inject you with drugs the joke is that you won’t die. You’re much less likely to die with a trained expert who knows CPR and has gloves on.”**

Larry Campbell and Randy White, the founder of the Drug Prevention Network of Canada held in August, before the extension to the exemption was granted.

During the debate, White, a former Reform-Alliance-Conservative MP and vice-chairman of the parliamentary committee studying the non-medical use of drugs, gave a list of reasons why Insite’s exemption under the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act should not have been renewed and why the site should have been shut down.

Among the reasons:

- 1) Injection sites do not prevent and treat drug use.
- 2) Since the opening of the site, Vancouver has become more problematic with crime and addiction, and the injection site has contributed to the problem.
- 3) Responsible government does not sanction a person walking through a door and getting assistance to shoot up crystal meth.
- 4) Injection sites are the exception, not the rule, in most countries worldwide.

Campbell retorted. “To be blunt, [White] is a dinosaur and refuses to even consider scientific, peer-reviewed evidence. I suspect that deep in his mind, he believes the earth is flat.”

The inability to get past archaic misconceptions about the realities of drug use is at the root of the problem, says Nathan Allen, an organizer for Insite for Community Safety, which is an advocate group for Insite.

“Federal government doesn’t fund any component. Insite doesn’t provide drugs. They aren’t asking for a single red cent, just for the blessing, just for the exemption to be renewed,” he says.

Libby Davies, a proponent of Insite and an NDP MP, echoed Allen’s concerns.

“The evidence [about] Insite is irrefutable, there’s no research that suggests it’s not working as it should be,” Davies says. “They’re dead wrong with the disputes. You can’t ignore the scientific evidence from incredibly reputable sources. It’s been under a microscope for three years. It’s not a panacea for the drug solution, its part of the solution.”

Echoing Davies’s concerns, Darcy adds a more extreme viewpoint. She believes that Ottawa has given the addiction situation and Insite a lack of attention, and the subsequent drug-related deaths in the Downtown Eastside area is a form of population control.

“[Drug addicts] are seen as a subhuman species here, but they aren’t. It’s tough to make it as a man down here but it’s even tougher to make it as a woman. They’ll stab you, knife you. That’s the element you have to be in,” Darcy says.

According to VANDU and Insite, every ambulance coming into the Downtown Eastside costs \$1000. Each case of HIV/AIDS costs the health-care system \$320 000. The financial

burden the area once carried has decreased significantly.

Surprisingly, one of the strongest messages of support comes from the Chinatown Merchants Association. Before the site opened, the association was among the most vehemently opposed groups to the injection site. Now they are one of Insite’s biggest supporters.

“There aren’t any people shooting up in front of the businesses anymore and Insite has [shown] by example that it works,” Allen says.

Six to eight hours after the last dose of heroin, a person can begin to have withdrawal symptoms that include severe anxiety, depression, diarrhea, convulsions, vomiting and uncontrollable body movements. Mary Miller used to dose at Insite frequently to avoid these symptoms.

“You don’t want to go sleep because when you wake up you’ll be too sick to move,” she says. To alleviate these symptoms she now gets a portion of her welfare check deducted to pay for her methadone.

Months before the creation of Insite, VANDU, which started in 1998 by a group of intravenous drug users that advocated living healthy and productive lives, opened their own de facto safe injection site for people like Mary.

The rogue site could barely operate and their hours were limited (10 pm to 2 am), but according to Ann Livingston, it was what gave the city the gumption to eventually open a legally sanctioned facility in 2003.

Livingston, a project coordinator for VANDU who also ran unsuccessfully for city council in 1996 and 1999, says it was this critical pressure from VANDU that finally started to change minds. The municipal government, she says, had repeatedly dropped the idea for the site for a number of years before Insite came to be.

Even with the cynical outlook, Livingston is still lobbying to open four more government-sanctioned sites. One site, she says, isn’t enough.

“It’s the equivalent of your whole body covered in running sores and one patch is cleared up,” she says. “We know it works but we can’t put it on the rest of our bodies. I said, ‘Fuck you, we can’t.’”

Her plan is to put three more sites on the perimeter of the Downtown Eastside. By surrounding the area with sites it would, in theory, be easier for addicts to get to a nearby site.

But the likelihood of three more sites popping up once the exemption expires in December 2007 seems like a stretch. Livingston knows it, and that’s why VANDU is doing whatever it can to help.

The group has already taken the matter into its own hands. If you know what they look like, you can spot them a block away. A team of ten people in fluorescent vests patrol the streets educating and, in many cases, illegally assisting the injections of addicts in the area who are unable to perform them alone.

These rogue patrols complement the limited services Insite can legally provide. Often, people have to be rejected from Insite because they are not capable of injecting their own drugs—and Insite workers cannot do it for them. The patrollers look out for these people in particular.

This squadron of injectors, all trained health-care workers certified in CPR, assist in any way they can. If you’re blind and have an amputated arm, for example, they will help you inject.

“It’s considered illegal,” Livingston admits. “But if I inject you with drugs the joke is that you won’t die. You’re much less likely to die with a trained expert who knows CPR and has gloves on.”

There’s no doubt in Livingston’s mind that if the government in Ottawa decides to pull the plug after December 2007, rogue sites will replace Insite. Before Ottawa announced the extension on 1 September, VANDU and other groups were already getting one ready.

The rumour is that the Portland Hotel Society, a Vancouver-based substance abuse advocacy group, has already built a site.

“The only way to find out is if you find one of their workers and literally follow them around until you see them all going to the same place,” Livingston says.

The future of Insite remains uncertain until December 2007, but there’s no doubt that whatever decision is made in Ottawa, it will not sway supporters of Insite from fighting on behalf of their growing and evolving community.

Livingston can attest to that. If Ottawa says no to an exemption beyond 2007, the gloves are going to come off.

“[Ottawa is] going to mud-wrestle with us,” she says. “I don’t think that they want that because we would win.”

**“It was from 25 years of being straight, I wanted to experience it all. You name it, I did it. My sister was a junkie; it was like I wanted to experience what she experienced.”**

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# Banged up Bears look to beat down Bisons

TREVOR PHILLIPS  
Sports Writer

The injury bug. That pesky little insect that can infect a dressing room, slow down the momentum of a season, create new roles and, in the case of this past Friday, create history. Last weekend, an injury-plagued Bears hockey squad limped in to Whistler Arena and dropped their first game to UBC in 19 years.

Though the Bears aren't making any excuses for that defeat, the losses of Ryan Stempfle and Tim Krymusa to long-term injuries have clearly put a few wrinkles into the plan for the season: most notably rushing a few freshmen into the roster a little earlier than expected.

"They've worked hard; they've battled; they've bought in; they've fought tooth and nail to be where they are, and they deserve it," Alberta head coach Eric Thurston said of his promising rookies. "Also, the experience they are gaining from playing in so many crucial situations is going to be very valuable to us in the long run."

Two of the more notable rookies to emerge so far have been defence-man Kyle Fecho and versatile forward Kieran Block. Fecho has logged important minutes not only at even strength, but on both special team units, while Block has stepped in to fill the gap left by Krymusa.

"I can't say enough about Kyle Fecho," Thurston raved. "He's been a tremendous guy on the blue line. He's been a power play guy, he's a solid player and we know he's going to continue to play at the level for a while."

There has been added pressure



FILE PHOTO: JOSH NAULT

**JUST A FLESH WOUND** Fourth-year winger Richard Hamula (18) is one of the few veteran Bears who has yet to be bitten by the injury bug.

placed on veterans Scott Henkelman and Harlan Anderson to take some of the tension off the youngsters. The two have quietly gone about their business to provide a stabilizing influence on the raw rookies who've been thrust into important roles a little earlier than expected.

"Harlan Anderson has been huge back there for us," second-year forward Dylan Stanley said while having what looked like a shirt of ice packs strapped to himself. "Especially playing with the

young guys, he has been a really calm and steady influence on the back end."

With so many penalties being called under the new CIS rules, a greater emphasis is being put on situational hockey. This has forced coaches to shorten their benches in order to get the most effective players on the ice for crucial situations. When there aren't enough bodies to go around, it can cause a problem, Thurston explained.

"Unfortunately there have been some guys that deserve more ice time,

but because of the situation haven't been able to get it," he said. "This is an adjustment for a coach because you have to get your penalty killers out there, or your power play guys, and you don't want people sitting for too long. Unfortunately, for periods last game, this was the case."

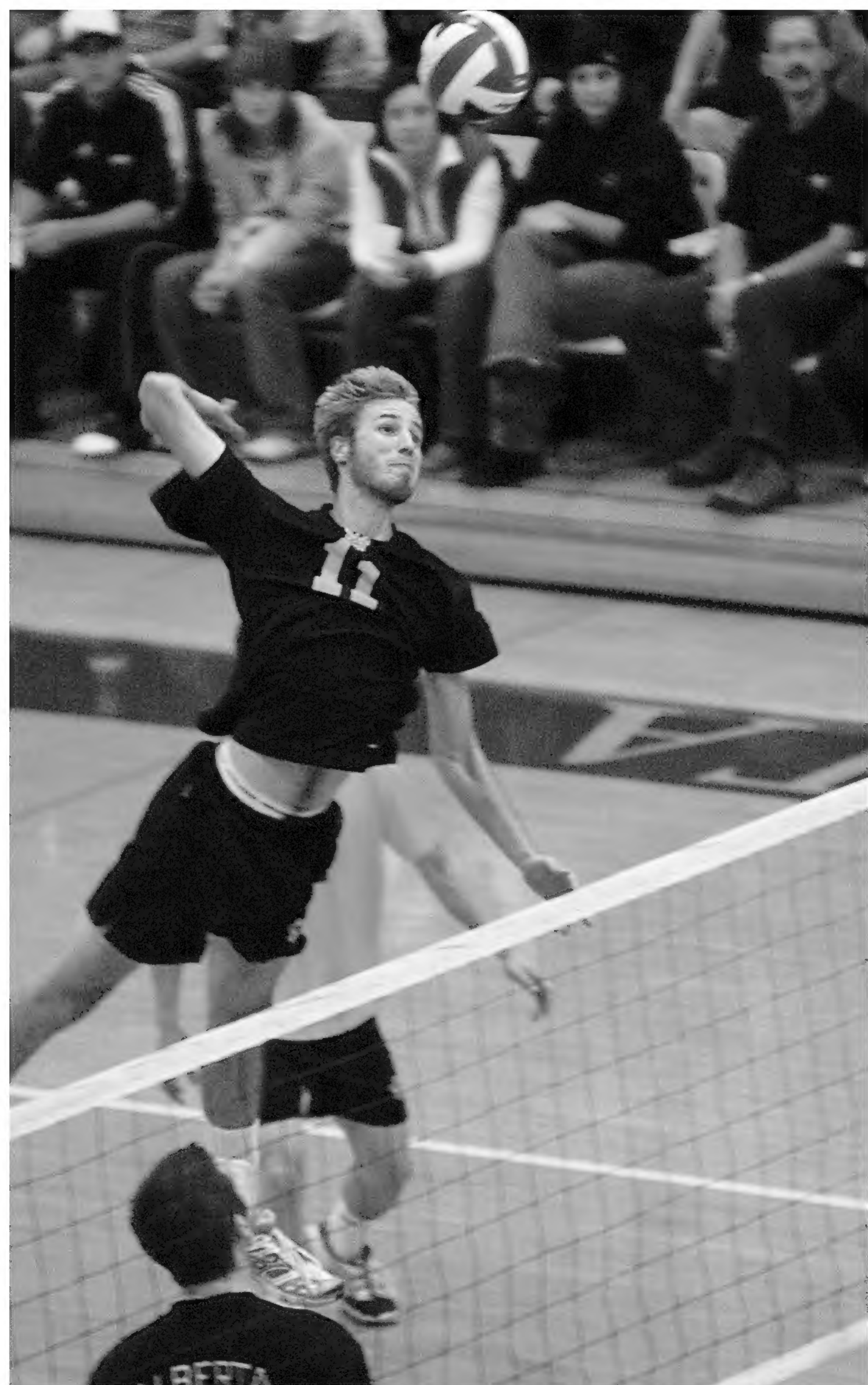
This weekend the top-ranked Bears will host a two-game set against the Manitoba Bisons, a team they're in the dark about.

"They have a new coach, and we

haven't faced them all year, so it'll be key for us to play our game at our tempo," Thurston said. "It reminds me of Nationals, because there is really very little information to work with heading into the weekend."

With such big challenges facing the Bears, the journey looks to get a little harder before it can get easier. Luckily for the Bears, a bye next weekend should help them recover a little.

The games go Friday and Saturday night at 7:30pm in Clare Drake Arena.



FILE PHOTO: LEANNE FONG

**SMASH HIT** Thomas Jarmoc (11) is one of the younger Bears filling the void.

## Impressive pre-season gives volley Bears momentum to open season

NICK FROST  
Sports Staff

Exhibition play ended on a high note for the Golden Bears volleyball team last weekend as they took three of four games in Manitoba; now, they look to carry that momentum into their regular season opener this weekend against the Brandon Bobcats.

If the pre-season revealed one thing about this team, it's that the loss of several key veterans from last year's silver medal team—including 2005/06 first-team All-Canadian Brock Davidiuk and second-team All-Canadian Nicholas Cundy, as well as conference all-stars Alexandre Gaumont Casias, and Dallas Soonias—hasn't broken their stride in the slightest. In fact, in their ten exhibition matches, the Bears recorded only two losses—something that proves that the younger and less-seasoned players on this team are able to establish Alberta as a national power once again.

"We did lose some important players from last year, but, at this point, that's water under the bridge," said head coach Terry Danyluk. "The good thing is that I like to look to the future, and we have some very good players on our team this year—guys that have the opportunity now to show what they can do. And, thus

far, guys who have been in our program the last few years like Thomas Jarmoc, Joel Schmuland and Brock Pehar have stepped up and formed a really good level [of play] for this time of the year."

**"It always hurts to lose some of those guys, like Soonias, who can beat a team with his attacks alone because he's such a powerful hitter."**

**DEREK PROUDFOOT,  
FIFTH-YEAR MIDDLE**

On the court, one of the remaining members of the 2005/06 team, Derek Proudfoot, feels that they haven't had a hard time adjusting to the loss of some of last year's key players. Rather, there is confidence that the younger guys can provide the skill and energy necessary to pull out the big wins that Alberta has rattled off in the past few seasons, as they proved in winning the Can-Am title two weeks ago.

"It always hurts to lose some of those guys, like Soonias, who can beat a team with his attacks alone because he's such a powerful hitter,"

the fifth-year middle from Edmonton explained. "But it just means that everything will have to be more spread out; everyone has to do their share, and we can't just rely on one guy. It's different, but it's also a good thing. The young guys are all doing a good job—they all bring a lot of energy to the table and everyone's really fighting to get their floor time, so I think it's looking pretty good."

Though one of the newer—they will be in their second season—and one of the weaker teams in the Canada West conference last season with a 4-16 record, everyone on the Bears' volleyball roster agrees on one thing: Brandon isn't to be taken lightly.

"Brandon has only been in the league for a couple of years, but I think they're one of those teams that have a lot of potential," Danyluk said. "They knocked off Manitoba once last year, which means that they can beat anybody on any given day."

"It should be good," Proudfoot, an engineering student, added. "It should give us a chance to work through some of the kinks that we had in Manitoba. I'm not sure how good they are this year, but you can never underestimate them."

The regular season commences against Brandon in the Main Gym on Saturday at 6:30pm, and continues on Sunday at 8pm.



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## PROFESSOR OF THE WEEK

DR. JUDITH  
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MMI 133



"Since day one, I have been continually impressed by Dr Gnarpe's **teaching ability and dedication to learning**. The numerous resources she provides to her students are above and beyond what I have ever received or expected from a professor. On WEBCT, Dr. Gnarpe posts games she herself has designed that **allow her students to interact** within and across campuses by engaging other players and answering review questions. She also challenges us to apply her material in **real life situations**, demonstrated by her provision of **extra resources, helpful feedback** on assignments, and **emphasis** given in lectures. Testifying her class commitment, Dr Gnarpe, in a class of over 200, **personally e-mails students** to confirm receipt of assignments. Overall, Dr Gnarpe is an **outstanding professor** who **maximizes learning opportunities** for her students and deserves to be recognized for her efforts."

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Nominations can be picked up/submitted at any Faculty Association office or InfoLink desk, or at the SU Executive Office front desk. Nominations can also be emailed to the Associate VP-Academic Tasneem Karbani at [avpa@su.ualberta.ca](mailto:avpa@su.ualberta.ca).



KIMSMITH

## SPORTS SHORTS

By Paul Owen, with special guest  
Scott Lilwall

### Pandas Basketball

Last week I mentioned how the Pandas went 0-3 on their road trip to Bishop's. That was a lie. They in fact went 2-1, which, when accompanied with their sweep of their own Hoopfest tournament this weekend put them at 5-1 on the season, not 3-3 as some sports editors would have you believe. This weekend they face Minot State, Regina and Brandon at the Regina Cougars tournament, humourosly held in Regina, of all places.

### Pandas Volleyball

Like their male counterparts, the Pandas volleyballers will start their season off at home against the Brandon Bobcats.

"They're a much improved team from last year. They've added some players that will enable them to be much more competitive," Pandas head coach Laurie Eisler said.

The Pandas are coming off a 6-5 pre-season that has raised many questions.

"We keep getting better," Eisler said. "There's very little tinkering going on now, it's now more into refining."

Alberta is in action at 8pm on Friday and 6:30pm Saturday in the Main Gym.

### Pandas Rugby

The dynasty has officially come to an end. With a 3-0 loss to Lethbridge in the Canada West semi-finals last weekend, the Pandas failed to make nationals, finishing third. After winning bronze and silver in the last years, it's clear that Alberta is no longer the dominant team in CIS rugby.

### Pandas Soccer

The breast-endowed fútbollers fly off to the lower mainland for a pair of games against UCFV Cascades and TWU Spartans to end the season. Alberta (9-2-1) is coming off a pair of wins at Foote Field and can clinch second place with a solid weekend, or a poor one from UBC against Lethbridge and Calgary. The Cascades host the Pandas at 6pm on Friday, and the Spartans host them at 5pm Saturday.

### Bears Soccer

The phallic Alberta soccer team will take on the same two teams as their vaginal counterparts. The top-ranked team in the country, the Bears can clinch first place with a single win. Sometimes, it just feels good to have good soccer teams. I missed that feeling last year. They face UCFV Friday at 1pm in Abbotsford and TWU Saturday at 1pm in Langley.

### Swimming

The two swim teams have a dual meet this weekend in UBC, and will also

compete in the BC Senior Meet. These teams should offer much more competition that Lethbridge did. UBC is the nine-time defending CIS champs.

### Bears Basketball

The Golden Bears will finish their pre-season with three games this weekend: two against Great Falls, Montana and a third against Montana Tech. Of course, they don't get to take the trek to scenic Montana, with it's rich views. Instead, all the action goes down at the University of Calgary.

### Fantasy Hockey

Even though it was only because Dallas gave Turco his 80th consecutive start against Chicago on Friday, Scott Lilwall wound up beating me in our Yahoo! league. Fluke. Anyways, I allowed him space to counter last week's comments. I would have won if I was allowed to pick up Lindsay McAlpine, who had 10 points this weekend for the Pandas.

Owen's My Orbs have Power were dealt a soul-snapping defeat at the hands of Lilwall's Waufflehaus Mediocres. Owen hopes to restore the vestiges of his shredded manhood this week against another, far less impressive, team.

### Shorts

Photo Editor Krystina Sulatycki is sporting some white, low-rise underwear. They are adorned with black lace and ghosts. Hooray for Halloween.

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**DOWN BUT NOT OUT** The Golden Bears can't take on Regina lying down, or they'll find themselves out of the playoffs.

# If Bears win, they'll be in

A victory over Regina on Saturday night will put Alberta into the post-season

JANELLE SLOYCHUK  
Sports Writer

Tension will be as high as the stakes when Alberta Golden Bears football team (4-3) faces the Regina Rams (3-4) in a struggle to secure the final Canada West playoff position.

The Bears' 28-11 loss to the Saskatchewan Huskies last weekend and Calgary's shocking upset of UBC (4-3) has left Alberta, UBC and Regina all vying for the third and fourth playoff spots in Canada West. UBC has guaranteed themselves a post-season berth, but if they lose, an Alberta win or overtime loss will lock up third position in the conference for the Golden Bears. A loss in regulation will most likely mean the end of the Bears' season, a fact not lost on offensive coordinator Terry Eisler.

"This week the pressure starts to build and we certainly are going to have to be able to deal with the pressures that are involved with a playoff game," he said. "I think our guys are up to it and it's a challenge for us—both coaches and players."

The tenth-ranked Bears will have to reassess some techniques and improve upon others after the hard loss to the Huskies. The Bears are last in the conference in passing yards per game and have completed a mere 46 per cent of their throws. While the Bears defence has been winning them games, it too has had its down moments: over a third of Simon Fraser's points on the year came in one game against Alberta.

"I don't think we're going to change a whole lot, but we've just got to do a little better than we did last time," Bears defensive coordinator Darryl Draudson said.

Draudson's defence will be charged with slowing down Regina's top-rated passing attack, and getting in quarterback Teale Orban's backfield with pass rushers such as Danny Bass Jr, who leads the conference in sacks with eight. Alberta also boasts the second best pass defence in the conference.

"What we have to be able to do is try to change our coverage so that their quarterback can't just be able to drop back and feel comfortable about what he's seeing," Draudson said. "Our approach to when we're playing any team is to try to make the quarterback uncomfortable; make him worried about the pressure."

Eisler noted that Regina also poses a threat defensively. Linebacker Clark Gates leads the conference in tackles for losses, while fellow linebacker Steve Wilson is tops in tackles with 76, 20 more than Bass in second.

"[Regina is] taking less risks," Eisler said. "We're going to have to make sure we execute better than we have in the past and really make sure we put a solid game plan together versus the defence."

The game kicks off at 7pm at Foote Field on Saturday night and can be heard live on the TEAM 1260 through the sweet sounds of Blake Dermott and Bob Stauffer.

## PLAYOFFS

Here's how the Canada West playoffs breakdown. The first tiebreaker is head-to-head record and the second is head-to-head point differential.

**UBC (4-3, 1-1 head-to-head, +11)**

**Finish third if:** They defeat Manitoba or Alberta loses in regulation.

**Finish fourth if:** They lose to Manitoba and Alberta wins, or they lose and Regina wins by 24 or more.

**Alberta (4-3, 1-0 head-to-head, +1)**

**Finish third if:** They beat Regina or lose in overtime and UBC loses.

**Finish fourth if:** They beat Regina and UBC wins or UBC loses and they lose by less than seven.

**Miss the playoffs if:** UBC wins and they lose in regulation or UBC loses and they lose by seven or more.

**Regina (3-4, 0-1 head-to-head, -12)**

**Finish third if:** They win by 24 or more and UBC loses.

**Finish fourth if:** They win in regulation by seven or more and UBC loses, or they win and UBC wins.

**Miss the playoffs if:** They lose, or they win in overtime or regulation by less than seven, but UBC loses.

Rem Murray is a floppy-necked former Masterson nominee who is now playing in Finland.



Ross Prusakowski has never had dystonia.

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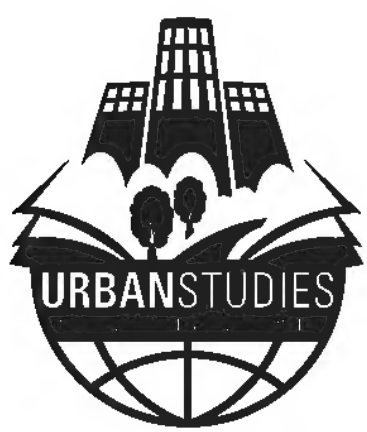
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## The worst dressed in the NHL

These uniforms will make you want to claw out your eyes—Oedipus-style



GATEWAY  
STAFF

Sports  
Commentary

The prevalence of purple and teal in today's NHL is ridiculous. We blame the San Jose Sharks. Back in 1991, the Sharks offset teal with black for one of the coolest jerseys of all time and made millions despite putting a glorified AHL team on the ice. Then, the Anaheim Mighty Ducks took the teal, added some purple and made even more millions, not because the jersey was cool, but because of cross-marketing with their movie franchise. Hell, we all wanted to be Charlie Conway. Today, ugly jerseys run rampant in the NHL, and with honourable mention to every European billboard jersey that comes out every spring with the Spangler Cup, and the horrific striped jerseys that Chicago and Detroit broke out in the early '90s that featured prominently on our Pro Set hockey cards, here are the Gateway's picks for worst NHL uniforms.

**Ross Prusakowski**

When I was of a young age, before I found culture and developed my worldliness, there was a time when I used to look upon the various concoctions brought to my plate by Captain Highliner as cuisine. Yet—even when I was young and dumb and could manage to stomach his frozen death sticks—I couldn't stomach the New York Islanders "Captain Highliner" jersey—a jersey that without a doubt is the worst jersey in all of hockey and sports history.

Sure, the Islanders play on an island, but they are hardly surrounded by fishermen—Nassau county, where the Isles make there home, is the sixth richest county per capita in the United States. It's hard to be fearsome to opponents and a rallying image for fans when your logo is better known on fish stick boxes. Additionally, Cap'n Islander is clutching a hockey stick in a manner that makes him seem better suited for an "I Know What You Did Last Summer" prequel than a hockey game.

Compound the misguided logo with wavy lines at the bottom of the jersey and a horrid colour scheme that was a revolting departure from their classic, cup-winning orange, white and blue, and you're likely to get seasick.

**Trevor Phillips**

In the mid-'90s, the NHL was coming out of a strike that cost them half a season and the play was being dominated by slow, boring, defensive-minded hockey. The league decided to go with alternate jerseys as a way to boost revenue and make games more attractive. Of course, this resulted in the most repulsive sweaters ever produced. Though there were some dastardly jerseys, (like the shiver-inducing New York Islander Highliner jersey), the winner has to be the Los Angeles Kings' Purple King Head of 1995.

The head, which looks more like a modern-day King of Oompa-Loompas than Poseidon, is blown-up, grape Bubblicious style, and stuck to the upper left corner of the shirt. Then, a gray sash, or something that looks like a gray sash, is draped over the shoulder to give it a regal quality. All it really did was make it look royally



COMPILED BY KRYSTINA SULATYCKI

ridiculous. Then the already atrocious old Kings logo was put on the shoulder. Essentially, the jersey was fucking disgraceful. Devoid of any tradition, class or even attraction, it was abandoned for the purple pieces of crap that the Kings wear now.

**Nick Frost**

Throughout the '90s, the NHL was notorious for having teams with some piss-poor uniforms. However, after looking at the Mighty Ducks third jersey from 1995/96, I can say, without hesitation, that it is undoubtedly the motherfugliest of them all. Aside from obvious faults—white shoulder bars, a lame attempt at a sharp font, and the fact that similar styles can be found in the bargain bin at your local Zellers—this jersey rubs me the wrong way for two main reasons.

First, a jersey should not have a National Geographic documentary happening anywhere on it. On Anaheim's monstrosity, there is a sheet of ice circling around the bottom and, on the front—for all you nature lovers out there—we catch a glimpse of their mascot, Wild Wing, in a duck's typical winter ritual (apparently): busting out of water, from below ice, at sub-zero temperatures that probably should've killed it, wearing Arturs Irbe's goalie equipment.

Secondly—and, if this isn't a rule of thumb already, it desperately needs to be—I don't know if anyone's noticed, but there's a jersey within this jersey. Wild Wing just happens to be wearing Anaheim's 1995/96 home uniform on this jersey. I can't even begin to formulate words for how stupid that idea was. Simply put, you don't put a picture of one of your jerseys on one of your other jerseys. It's like putting a decal of a brand-new Porsche on the hood of a brand-new Porsche; who in their fucking mind would do such a stupid thing? Disney. Fuck Emilio Estevez.

**Andrew Renfree**

The ugliest jersey in any real sport has got to be the Vancouver Canucks from 1978–1987. During this decade of ugliness, the home jersey was 80 percent bright yellow, including the helmets. Here's a good rule of thumb with uniforms: yellow should be used sparingly, if at all. Unless you're winning the Tour de France, yellow just doesn't look good.

As if the bumblebee imitation wasn't enough, Vancouver's attire was even uglier because of the v-shaped stripes—one black, one red and another black—around the neck of the jersey. The away attire that fans in other arenas were subjected to was a bit better, being mostly black but with the same v motif around the neck. Canucks' fans of this era argue that the Vs stood for Vancouver. I figure it stood for vile, because that basically sums up how aesthetically pleasing this garb was. This jersey seemed even uglier because, prior to that, the Canucks wore one of the greatest jersey's of all time: nobody can beat the blue jersey with the rectangular stick logo for the crest. So simple, yet so majestic.

**Adam Gaumont**

While many of the eyesores brought up already are all deserving nominees, I feel that the cumulative magnitude of suck put forth by the Vancouver Canucks' organization over the years merits the dubious distinction of a Lifetime Achievement Award for Jersey Assiness.

It all started in the 1970/71 season, when the Canucks' inaugural blue-and-white jerseys were revealed. Featuring a dark blue crest and the shoddy likeness of a straight-bladed hockey stick, this was perhaps the most uninspired design in the Canucks' sorry history of hideous on-ice garb.

Vancouver then took a wild departure, opting for a stomach-churning harvest-gold colour, presumably to match the fridges and stoves of the same hue that were all the rage at the time. Literally a V-necked cut, these sweaters were seemingly designed by someone who threw up on themselves while wearing a triangular bib.

Slightly less eye-gouging was the Pavel Bure-era version, which persisted against all odds well into the relative modernity of 1997. At this point the black, red and mustard colours (also known as "burnt hotdog"), along with its blindingly illegible streaked crest, were ousted in favour of the Can-sucks' current incarnation, featuring the unimposing white, blue, and maroon colour pattern and inexplicably angry blue whale. These G-rated getups wouldn't scare off a team of nine-year-old ringette players, let alone hulking 6'6" defencemen. No wonder thugs like Bertuzzi and Jovanovski wanted out.

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Thursday, November 2 - 12:35 to 1:20 p.m., 2-100 SUB

\*Pre-registration not required

\*For more information please visit [www.ualberta.ca/caps](http://www.ualberta.ca/caps).





## SOCIAL INTERCOURSE

### Axiomatik

With Whitewall and Jeremiah  
Thursday, 26 October at 9pm  
Sidetrack Café  
\$5 at Door

An axiom is a self-evident truth that allows other knowledge to be built upon it. Axiomatik themselves “invite you to experience the inarguable truth that is Axiomatik” by coming to their concert at the Sidetrack. While intelligent and philosophical, the truth in Axiomatik’s emotional rocking and philosophical band name is ultimately less witty than the truth evident in one of the member’s former band names, PornCzar.

### Ride Theory

With Guests  
Friday, 27 October at 8pm  
Starlite Room, 18+  
\$8 at Door

The Ride theory is a postulate that coordinates itself around the theoretical, human-derived concept of “shotgun.” Proposed by Dr Alexander Ride in 1828, the theory states that “the calling of ‘shotgun’ shall, for the remainder of human civilization, reserve one a place in the front passenger seat of any vehicle of human construction, relegating other slower patrons to the less comfortable hind quarters for the duration of the trip.” This breakthrough inspired the design of Henry Ford’s Model T and the rest is history. The Ride Theory pays homage to Dr Ride’s legacy with their soulful blues and surf rock.

### Kid Koala

With Bebop Cortez  
Sunday, 29 October at 8pm  
Powerplant, 18+  
\$19, tickets available at Blackbyrd Myoozik, Listen Records, Megatunes, Foosh, Soular (WEM),

For years now, poachers have caught young koalas and turned them into stuffed animals, to be sold at zoo gift shops everywhere to naïve children. It’s unfortunate, and has been particularly rough on the hip-hop and house music scenes, as kid koalas have long been known as master DJs, breaking out an innovative use of samples and aggressive mixing abilities when placed behind a set of turntables.

### Halloween Explosion!

Featuring The Fat Dave Crime Wave, Down the Hatch and Wafer Thin Mints  
Tuesday, 31 October at 9pm  
Sidetrack Café  
\$8 with costume, \$10 without

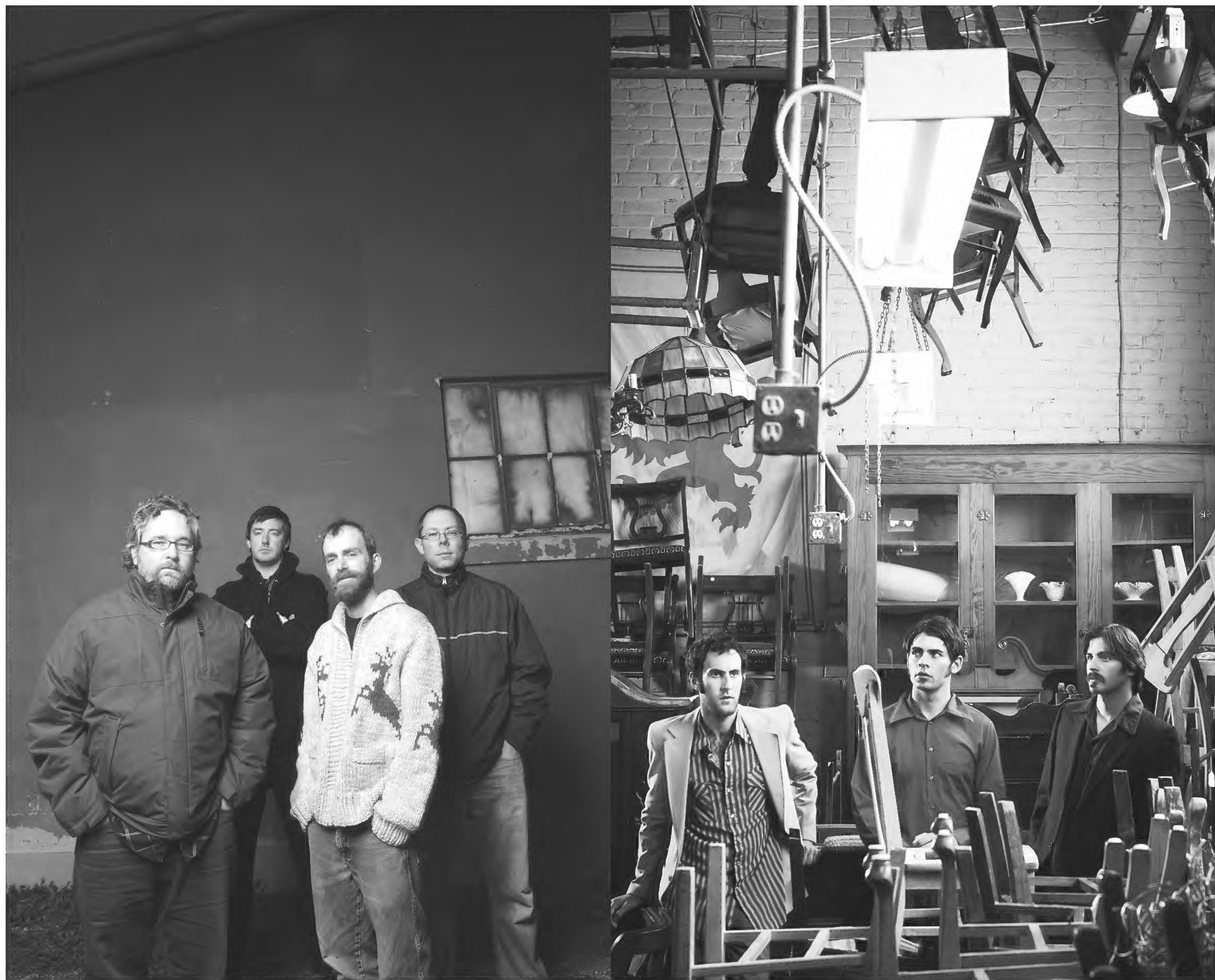
It’s that time of the year again—that festive day when pumpkins are carved, decorations are hung, costumes are purchased and candy is distributed, all for the purpose of bringing one night of sheer terror to perpetually concerned parents. Yes, it’s Halloween, the night where kids worry about getting apples and parents worry about the razor blades hidden inside those apples. So instead of worrying about Gillette-infested fruit, parents, you should send your costumed children to the Sidetrack Café, where they will receive a discount prior to being frightened by the rock prowess of Fat Dave and his Crime Wave.

### Canadian Literature Centre Grand Opening Event

Wednesday, 1 November at 4pm  
Timms Centre for the Arts

The Canadian Literature Centre is celebrating their grand opening celebration next week, and all those interested in anything art-related should check it out. The event will feature readings by U of A Writer-in-Residence Camilla Gibb, along with Claudine Potvin, Fred Wah and Rudy Wiebe, as well as a reception and a walk-through of the centre itself.

JOHN KMECH  
Not allowed to discuss colognes



# Sweet home Alberta

This Civil Twilight, The Cape May, and Field and Stream join up to release their CDs into the wild

### Triple CD Release

This Civil Twilight, The Cape May, and Field and Stream  
Thursday, 26 October at 8pm  
Starlite Room

JOHN KMECH  
Arts & Entertainment Staff

When it comes to bitter rivalries, the long-standing feud between Edmonton and Calgary is Canada’s modern day version of Greece and Sparta. Whether it’s between universities, sports teams or citizens, there’s a constant vendetta between both of Alberta’s flagship metropolitan communities to come out on top in whatever way possible.

However, there’s one exception to the ongoing contention: the music scenes in both cities support each other, and there’s no better example of this than in the triple CD release party being thrown by Edmonton bands This Civil Twilight and Field and Stream, along with The Cape May, whose home is just south down the Queen Elizabeth.

Steve Derpack drummer for This Civil Twilight, notes that the bands have known of each other for a while. Having met The Cape May’s vocalist Clinton St John years ago while playing in St John’s old band The Trickle Act, the two musicians have wanted to release a CD together for some time, but life has always seemed to get in the way.

“Clinton moved to Halifax, and started The Cape May when he came back to Calgary,” Derpack explains. “I found out through Clinton’s girlfriend that they were recording an album, and we were finally getting our record done, so I said, ‘Why don’t we do an EP release together?’ Then Clinton got sick and they had to do a later recording, so we released our EP at the Sidetrack and they went and did what they were doing.

“When we found out that [our next albums] were sneaking up together this time, we said,

‘Hey, why not release this together; we’re like-minded bands, one Edmonton band, one Calgary band.’ We just felt there was a kinship with that band even though we don’t know them personally. We had the tie-in from before and everybody thought it was a good idea.”

This Civil Twilight is releasing their first full-length record, *Wolf Pack Days*, while The Cape May are releasing *Glass Mountain Roads*. In addition, Field and Stream are releasing a limited edition three-song EP. But as far as songwriting goes on his record, Derpack says that a lot of the influence for their music came from the mind of their lead singer and songwriter, Mark Simpson, who is an associate professor of English at the University of Alberta.

**“I think we’re spoiled in Edmonton. The scene here is fucking unbelievable. We have a plethora of solid talent from Edmonton that has constituted a really good scene—no less than 20 bands I know of, and that’s just off the top of my head.”**

STEVE DERPACK

“[Simpson’s] word choices can be a little more out there or cryptic, and I think that comes naturally from being an English professor,” Derpack says. “He said the *Wolf Pack Days* imagery, for him, was a reminder of how he felt about the state of Canadian and American politics. We’re not an overtly political band, but we definitely have a clear idea of what our social and political views are.”

Since there are no university professors in

The Cape May, the band’s influences stem more from its Albertan heritage, explains Jeff Macleod, multi-instrumentalist for The Cape May.

“There’s definitely a Prairie element,” Macleod says. “Clint [St John] writes all the lyrics and he grew up in a town called Delburne, Alberta. There’s probably feelings of starkness or isolation with that and he carries it with him.”

While Macleod stresses that there’s plenty of talent in Calgary, he also comments on what he sees as a lack of culture in Calgary, and that these thoughts also seep into their writing.

“I don’t know what it is; it’s just kind of vacuous. There’s the cookie-cutter housing, then they’re knocking down all the heritage buildings and making these glass and aluminum atrocities, so it kind of feels like there’s not that much culture in Calgary. I think there’s a certain ‘fuck off’ attitude in our music, as far as dealing with this culturally rapid or culturally void environment.”

But getting back to the rivalry, both Macleod and Derpack agree that Edmonton wins hands down. Aside from being a musician, Derpack is the U of A Students’ Union concert organizer and promoter, and so he has a unique angle to take on the subject.

“I think we’re spoiled in Edmonton,” Derpack says. “The scene here is fucking unbelievable. We have a plethora of solid talent from Edmonton that has constituted a really good scene—no less than 20 bands I know of, and that’s just off the top of my head. We network here in the right way and for the right reasons, instead of trying to climb up a ladder. There’s no self-interest other than to proudly promote your home-grown talent.”

“Going up to Edmonton, people are much more enthusiastic and more willing to get excited,” Macleod agrees. “People in Calgary, they’re kind of reserved. It just seems like in other cities, they want to get their ass kicked more, know what I mean?”



# The grown-up kind of trick-or-treating

InterFEAR Arts Festival is kicking off another year of Halloween-based fun for kids—and for adults who think they're still kids

## InterFEAR Arts Festival

26-29 October  
TransAlta Arts Barns  
[www.interfear.ca/program](http://www.interfear.ca/program)

MIKE SMITH  
Arts & Entertainment Writer

Halloween has been a favourite evening for kids for generations, but it has always been somewhat of a mixed bag for adults—options have usually involved either handing out candy or finding a party where dressing up is merely an excuse to get trashed.

Enter InterFEAR Arts Festival, a relatively new event at the TransAlta Arts Barns in old Strathcona. A combination visual arts, music and theatre, the festival offers a wide variety of Halloween-based entertainment for people to enjoy. Although it features children's programs during the day, adults are going to be the main focus.

"Adults need an outlet for their inner child during Halloween," says producer Brenda Knight. "They might do events with their children during the day, but at night, they want to do something that's more adult orientated."

The headlining play for this year, and perhaps the most adult oriented, is the psychological thriller *Get Away* by Canadian playwright Greg MacArthur. *Get Away* is a good example of where the festival wants to take patrons, as it's designed to creep out audiences as much as a good horror movie might, while at the same time forcing them to think a bit.

There's something to be said for the

live experience that offers more than sitting in your basement watching a scary movie. After all, one could argue that these types of plays are extensions of the scary stories that were told around the fire as children, where our rampant imaginations did the scaring for us. Heather Inglis, director for *Get Away*, had this in mind when developing the play.

**"Adults need an outlet for their inner child during Halloween. They might do events with their children during the day, but at night, they want to do something that's more adult orientated."**

BRENDA KNIGHT

"We're really trying to leave a lot up to the audience's imagination. One of the things Greg MacArthur has done masterfully is lead [the audience] in directions they don't expect."

Knight, who helped select this year's plays, also feels that it's an applicable Halloween show.

"It (deals) with fear on so many levels," she says. "It can seem so real."

For those still looking for a party to go to on the weekend, another big event for the festival is the all-ages



JESSE WHITEHEAD

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licenced *Hip Hop Hallow E* party on Saturday, 28 October, featuring local hip-hopper Eshod Ibn Wyza.

"These guys have a really good social message that they're sending out, and I thought that was something the festival should support," Knight says.

Patrons are encouraged, but not

required, to wear costumes to the party, and festival organizers want everyone to maintain their comfort levels, although those venturing into the Arts Barn on the weekend should expect to see other patrons in their costumed finery.

In addition to the great music and

theatre, there are also several other events throughout the festival, including visual arts displays that will be taking over the Arts Barn for its duration. The festival will also be collecting donations for the Campus Food Bank, so make sure to give some non-perishables when you stop by to say "boo."

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**EDMONTON JOURNAL**



# Lovin' the solo life—for now

## Andre Ethier

With Greg Keelor and the Sadies  
Saturday, 28 October at 8pm  
The Powerplant

PAUL BLINOV  
Arts & Entertainment Staff

You may not have heard of Andre Ethier, but the Toronto-based singer/songwriter has been a powerful ace-in-the-sleeve in the Canadian music scene for more than a decade. Having tasted modest but lasting success as the front man of Polaris Prize-nominated The Deadly Snakes, Ethier is now quietly building up critical praise of his own with the release of his second solo album, *Secondathallum*.

Right now, the stakes are much higher for Ethier than with his prior solo endeavor—2004's exhaustingly titled *Andre Ethier with Christopher Sandes Featuring Pickles and Price*—mainly because he doesn't have The Deadly Snakes to fall back on anymore. This year marks the end of the band after ten years of spitting out messy garage rock, a far bigger lifespan than the average band, but surprisingly, it's a passing that Ethier will not mark with sadness. Not even a Polaris Music Prize nomination could keep the weary band together.

"We're not swayed by prizes," Ethier laughs. "Everyone was just trying to grow in different directions. Just the idea of trying to pull together a band that had been formed when we were 18 and 19 years old seemed a little unrealistic at this point. It's fine with me, though; it's not like I don't see those guys anymore. I see them all the time ... it just won't be us doing any shows. It's not strange, it's good."

This lack of sadness and regret is surprising, especially given the length of The Deadly Snake's career, but Ethier appears to be in a different songwriting mindset now.

"I think it's really important, and exciting and fun to write with other



people and have that camaraderie," Ethier continues. "But [a Solo career is] a whole other world where you become in touch more and more with what you're able to do yourself."

Not having the pressure of a band on your back is especially handy for Ethier. He can write about what's most important to him, which in this case happens to be his recent marriage.

"It's nice to not be at the whims of a band that wants to tour," Ethier says. "I'm going out right now, but I chose that myself, it wasn't like everyone decided that they want to tour and I'm forced to go along. I'd rather have

[this], where I can pick and choose when I feel like doing anything or not doing anything"

Reinforced by having a Mrs Andre Ethier waiting back home, Andre seems quite content to remain a solo act for as long as he keeps creating music—not that it would be difficult to quickly put together a band, though, if he felt the need to.

"I think I'd like to do more and more things without bands," Ethier states. "[Solo]'s kind of where I'm at right now. Whenever I need musicians, I can always throw a pickup band together, and yeah, it's good."

## Summer Job at the Parliament of Canada

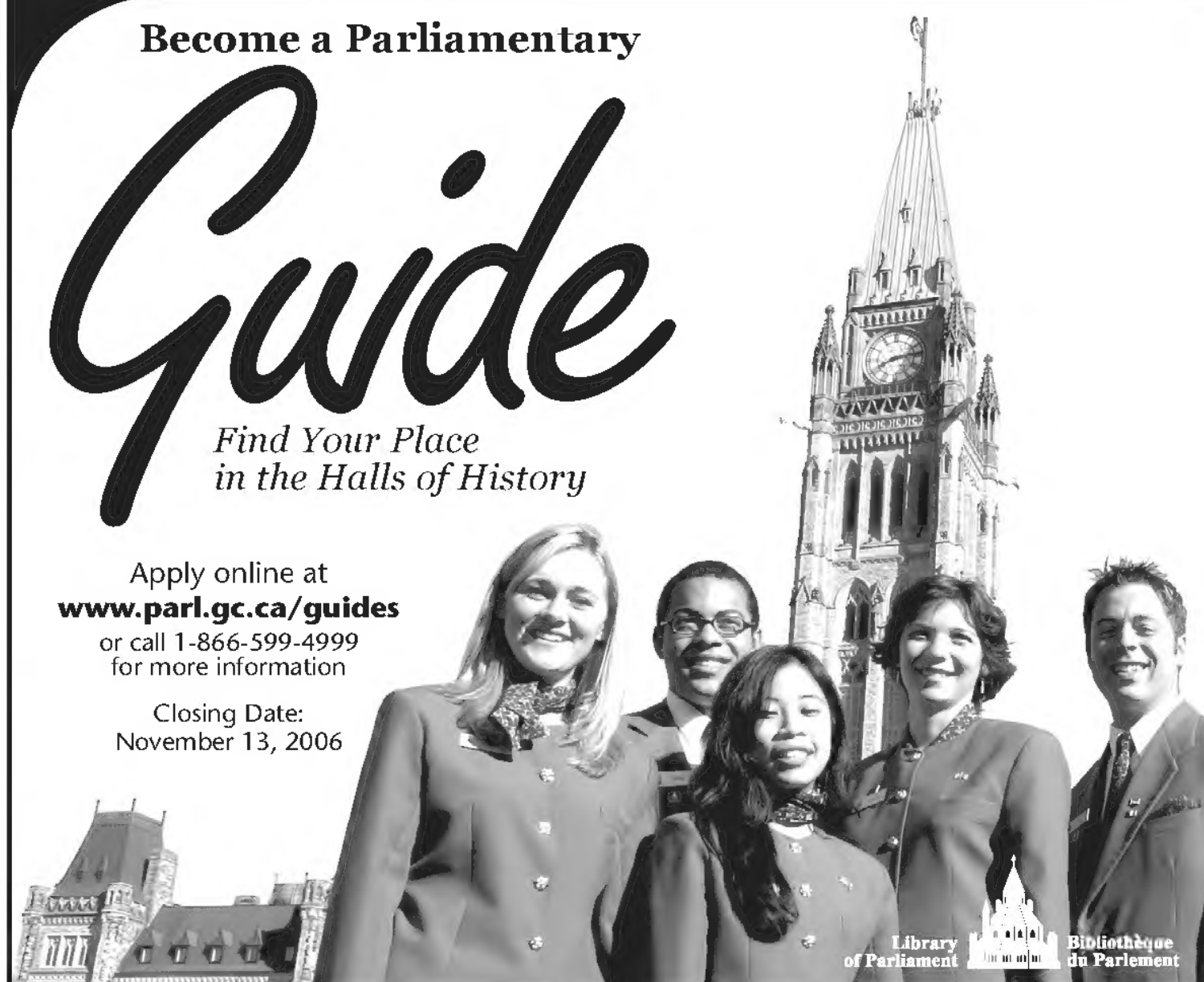
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# Gladiators, I'm still a slave for you



ROBB  
MYROON

It's happened to all of us at one time or another: you're flipping randomly through the numerous TV channels late at night and you stumble along a gem; one of the greatest shows of all time. The satisfaction and delight are indescribable, but all the way through, you're haunted by the fact that this feeling will drift away when the hour is up. That's right, I'm talking about *American Gladiators*—and why this show doesn't exist anymore is beyond me.

Let's put this in perspective for a moment. Take, for example, the immense popularity of *The Price is Right*. Don't you think more people would watch it if, when the contestant came running down the aisle, Bob Barker jumped out of the third row and absolutely levelled them with a hit that would impress Chuck Norris? Clearly the answer yes, which demonstrates why *American Gladiators* should be brought back on the air.

The show lasted for seven seasons, mainly through the early 1990s,

crowned seven male and female champions, and was even taped in various international countries. It seemed like the perfect show, a reality that many of us dream about when we see that cocky jock walking around with a stick so far up his ass we can see his prostate hanging out. I have to admit I got a strong feeling of contentment when I saw some arrogant cretin bulldozed by Nitro as he went for the middle cylinder in Powerball.

**Massive collisions,  
ripped competitors  
and crazy games; it's all  
over the TV these days,  
except not all at once.  
*American Gladiators*  
had it all, and then  
some.**

Huge collisions aside, there are many more reasons to love the gladiators. They were more than just a source of entertainment; they were role models for both sexes. Lower-intelligence guys could see how ripped they could actually get if they started taking steroids, while the smarter ones suddenly understood

why school was so important in obtaining a stable career. The girls, on the other hand, felt beautiful no matter how ugly or fat they normally thought they were, just as soon as they saw the sickening ripples of muscles on Zap and Jazz.

But let's get to the point: perhaps *American Gladiators* was more than a brute-force battle between severely mismatched contenders. In fact, it was much more than that, and you know it. Even though every event was important to the score, it always came down to the Eliminator, the final event, where the first person across the line won, bar none. Yes, it was a true metaphor for life, where each of our daily tasks counts, but in the end, what truly matters is the end result. Or maybe we all just love watching Turbo beat the crap out of some random guy with a giant Q-tip.

Massive collisions, ripped competitors and crazy games; it's all over the TV these days, except not all at once. *American Gladiators* had it all, and then some. They served quiet justice to all the conceited losers out there and were our role models for a variety of reasons. I say bring them back, sign up some contestants and let me get back to loving a show that should have never gone off the air. I'll still watch *The Price is Right*, though, just in case a third-row ambush is waiting.

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# THE GATEWAY

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## U of A's 2020 vision

U of A ranked 133 in recent survey, but President Samarasekera confident top 20 is within its reach

THOMAS WAGNER  
News Writer

The University of Alberta, in the annual *Times* of London survey released 6 October, was ranked 133 among institutions worldwide. However, this ranking hasn't discouraged the University from trying to reach its goal of becoming one of the top 20 universities on the planet by the year 2020.

Although a high goal, President Indra Samarasekera is confident the U of A can upstage its Canadian rivals in the rankings, among them the University of British Columbia, the University of Toronto and McGill University, by reaching that elusive 20, just one ahead of McGill's current ranking of 21.

"The U of A is not top of mind for many professors around the world," Samarasekera said. "It needs to become better known as an institution [in order to rise in the rankings]."

She explained this focus on marketing, or "developing a brand" for the U of A, is in large part due to the criteria of the rankings, 60 per cent of which is devoted to research.

However, the plan isn't getting full approval from everyone. Amanda Henry, Students' Union Vice-President (Academic), noted her concern over this marketing intensive initiative.

"Ideas like getting on the top of lists and things is probably a pretty good external marketing endeavour," she said. But she stressed that the University needs to balance its recruitment of staff through the use of "an awesome brand" with a continued focus on necessary non-research experiences that U of A undergraduate students need.

But both Samarasekera and Henry

explained that increased exposure is not without its benefits, as the other side of the University's continued initiative is to boost the number of faculty on the ground with the intent to bump the current student to faculty ratio, sitting at 23:1, to the 14:1 of previous years.

"The University needs to work hard at increasing the quality of what we do ... [by] recruiting the best faculty, students and grad students," said Samarasekera, a tactic she hopes will boost exposure.

**"The U of A is not top of mind for many professors around the world."**

INDIRA SAMARASEKERA,  
UQFA PRESIDENT

However, Henry said that part of the trouble in trying to reach the goal of being in the top 20 by the set date may come in the form of competition from universities with deeper pockets than a public institution such as our own U of A could hope for. She pointed to the current top university, Harvard, as a prime example.

"If the U of A wants to be an institution on par with Harvard, that's probably a laudable goal, but, I'm not sure how to do it without a multi-billion dollar endowment," said Henry.

She expressed concern that if this rise meant an increase in student costs, the increase might not be worth the higher level of exposure afforded to highly ranked institutions.

Anyone interested in a full list of ranked universities or the methodology used in the ranking process can find it at [www.topuniversities.com](http://www.topuniversities.com).



AMANDA ASH

**YOU DON'T HAVE TO PUT ON THE RED LIGHT** Montréal's The Stills played for a Molson event Sunday at the 'Plant.

## Long-forgotten LSD treatment might aid alcoholics start a trip to recovery

SEAN MCCLURE  
News Writer

When most people hear the term LSD, ideas of little pieces of blotter paper soaked in mind-expanding liquid that offer users a new world of altered perception and oneness come to mind—not to mention jail time and parole.

The illicit reputation of the drug may, however, hinder its potential as a powerful treatment to a serious addiction.

Dr Erika Dyck, professor of the history of medicine at the University of Alberta, has been taking an historical look at the use of LSD as a treatment for alcoholism.

"What the research was showing was that [alcoholism] was something psychological in nature," Dyck said.

Dyck explained that during the 1950s, researchers in Saskatchewan were treating alcoholism with the drug known scientifically as d-lysergic acid diethylamide. The researchers originally made the connection between the effects of LSD and alcoholism withdrawal by examining what are known as delirium tremens. Delirium tremens are acute psychotic states caused by withdrawal from heavy drinking resulting in confusion, tremors and hallucinations—something quite similar to the effects of taking LSD.

Since these tremens seem to mark a turning point in the disease, the researchers were interested in seeing if LSD could offer a therapeutic start to a recovering alcoholic.

The researcher's results showed significant rates of recovery and helped strengthen the idea that alcoholism should be characterized as a disease.

Although the approach gained support from the provincial government, local chapters of Alcoholics Anonymous and the Bureau of alcoholism, negative media attention of LSD as a harmful recreational drug curtailed further clinical trials.

PLEASE SEE LSD ♦ PAGE 2

## Bay building expansion hopes to relieve U of A growing pains



KRYSTINA SULATYCKI

**TRADING UP** The downtown Bay building is getting a U of A-funded makeover.

EDMON ROTEA  
News Staff

After two years of planning and development, the former downtown Bay Building will soon be the new home of the recently named Enterprise Square.

"We think that this is going to be the most sought after penthouse address in the city," said Pamela Freeman, Vice President of Company Development of Technology, Entrepreneur, and Company Development (TEC) Edmonton—a joint venture between the City and the University of Alberta that aims to foster commercial research and development.

Representatives of TEC Edmonton

delivered a presentation on 11 October to existing tenants of the Research Transition Facility (RTF), currently near the Health Sciences LRT station, which is to be relocated on the third and fourth floors of Enterprise Square. The 61-year-old RTF building is to be demolished sometime in 2007/08 to make way for the Edmonton Clinic—a new \$577 million health sciences facility.

Currently, the RTF maintains a 95 per cent occupancy rate, with over 35 tenants. But academic space is becoming a premium on the U of A campus.

"We have a severe shortage of space on this campus right now," said Leo Leujeune, Planning Officer for the Office

of the University Architect. "Faculties are bursting at the seams and needing more space. One of the key drivers in the purchasing of the Bay Building was to not only allow TEC Edmonton to develop space for their tenants—but to also move some University groups into the Bay, thereby freeing up space on campus for academic work."

Enterprise Square, when completed, will be approximately 350 000 square feet in office, laboratory or commercial space—freeing up over 175 000 square feet on the main campus. The building already has existing tenants, including CityTV studios and The Bounce 91.7FM radio station.

PLEASE SEE BAY ♦ PAGE 2

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### Getting some Insite

Right from Vancouver's Downtown Eastside, Eric Szeto delves into drug culture and programs for addicts

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### Unwearably bad

Our picks for the NHL's worst jerseys prove that grown men will wear anything for a million dollar contract.

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# Sloan hones in on new 30-track album

SLOAN NEVER HEAR THE END OF IT



## Sloan

*Never Hear The End Of It*  
Sony BMG  
www.sloanmusic.com

## RYAN HEISE

Arts & Entertainment Staff

In a world where a rock album typically means two or three decent tracks from total of twelve, it's refreshing to listen to an album that's doing things a little different, but in a big way.

Coming off of 2005's *A Sides Win* greatest hits collection, Sloan chose to put together 30 tracks, ranging from under a minute to five-and-a-half, for their new album, *Never Hear the End of It*.

Showcasing the versatility of band, the album ranges from dancehall-worthy pop songs to piano-laced laments to fast-paced punk numbers that beckon back to the band's roots. But through all these different tracks, one thing stays constant to the listener—the record definitely screams Sloan.

The band took a chance with their new album, but with not a single bad track in sight, *Never Hear the End of It* pays off as a fantastic and sonically diverse return for Sloan.

## Sloan

With The Yoko Casionos  
Saturday, 28 October at 8pm  
Dinwoodie Lounge

## RYAN HEISE

Arts & Entertainment Staff

After eleven albums, countless cross-Canada tours and a career that spans nearly 16 years, you might think that Halifax's Sloan is starting to get weary of making music. But speaking frankly about the band's new album and lengthy tenure together, guitarist Jay Ferguson admits that keeping things new and interesting is the key to staying together.

On their most recent album, *Never Hear the End of It*, the band includes an ambitious 30 tracks—an amount that's quite out of the ordinary, but nevertheless allows them to keep things fresh. Ferguson concedes, though, that making a long, eclectic record wasn't done out of necessity; rather, it's always been a desire of his.

"[Bassist Chris Murphy] and I have often fantasized about the idea of making a really long record," Ferguson says. "The idea or the premise was that you could keep the listener interested over a long record just by using so many new things at a rapid pace."

Although the record features many new styles, the album still retains the classic Sloan signature, a sound Ferguson says the band aimed to achieve.

"I guess it was kind of like trying to do an experiment but keeping it within the realm of what we do best, which is writing catchy pop songs and not trying to make a Pink Floyd record,"



Ferguson says. "We were trying to do something that's creative and new out of what we do best."

While recording the new album afforded the band a lot of enterprising space, working the new songs, many of which flow seamlessly into one another, into a set list has posed some interesting problems.

"A lot of them we have been trying to do as segues—a couple in a row and try to do them together," Ferguson says. "The difficult thing is trying to play a lot of the new songs we want to play live, but also to try to play some of our 'oldies.' We're trying to fit everything in, to have a balanced show so it's just not all new

songs and, at the same time, to try to play as many new songs as we can. It's a weird balance."

The band also livened up the recording process by making short films in the studio and posting them to their website almost daily.

"We could have made a documentary and put it out later, but it was kind of fun just to film stuff while we were recording or rehearsing and put it up right away," Ferguson explains. "If I was growing up and my favourite band had a little snippet of them recording their new album online everyday, I'd be there like crazy. It's just something new to put up on the website and provide something for

the fans immediately, which I like."

Sloan's last visit to Edmonton saw them playing to a very receptive crowd at Rexall Place while opening for the Foo Fighters on their Canadian tour. However, the band opted to play relatively small venues in support of *Never Hear the End of It*. Ferguson admits that the band would like to be able to play large arenas, but admits it isn't the size of the show that matters.

"There are some places that we're playing that are even smaller than the Dinwoodie and they've already sold out," Ferguson says. "Maybe we could play some bigger venues, but if it's sold out, it'll be an exciting show, and that's all I really care about."



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# HD DVD stung by the Blu-ray

The battle of the technologies is raging, and consumers are stuck in between



RYAN  
HEISE

Most industry wars fought for profit and control end up making average citizens the biggest losers. Those simply wanting to live their lives and maybe bask in some pretty high-definition video without the fear that their hard earned money is being wasted are about to suffer significantly. The battle to see who will be profiting from your desire to see the individual pores on Scarlett Johansson's beautiful face is just gearing up.

With two new formats, HD DVD and Blu-ray Disc, competing to replace DVD within the next six months, both parties are moving to ensure that you'll be shelling out for their product first.

Developed by Toshiba and backed by the likes of Microsoft, Sanyo and NEC, HD DVD uses similar production methods as those used by DVD discs and thus allows them to be produced for significantly cheaper.

Blu-ray, on the other hand, was created by Sony and has the support of Panasonic, Apple Computers and TDK. It uses a new production method that has proved quite costly compared to HD DVD, but will ultimately have

much higher storage capacities than its rival.

But technical aspects aside, the two formats might as well be identical from a consumer's point-of-view, as they will both give you high-definition video in your home. It then comes down to two factors: price and content.

**A new format war is not what the market wants, especially when many consumers have just shelled out upwards of two grand on a new TV.**

The initial launch of players in Canada has been less than stellar. Both debuting during the summer, HD DVD has the slight advantage launching for a mere \$700 compared to Blu-ray's nice round \$1000. But at these price points, consumers have been less than warm to the products.

Content-wise, most major studios have stated that they will support both formats with the exception being Universal Studios; they have decided to support only Blu-ray, a move that is actually being praised by many.

So we have players that are expensive and not selling well, movie studios that are reluctant to put out

content, but a growing market place of consumers with fancy new HDTV sets that demand content that the cable and satellite companies aren't giving them. This doesn't make much sense.

A new format war is not what the market wants, especially when many consumers have just shelled out upwards of two grand on a new TV. Giving consumers a choice when there is inherently failure destined for one of the formats is not going to create sales; it only serves to alienate buyers from both formats out of fear of losing in the long run.

While the two sides came together in the summer of 2005 to try to agree on a unified format, they ultimately failed and went their separate ways. Sony has seemingly learned nothing from their Betamax fiasco of the 1980s, and is cramming Blu-ray down the throats of consumers by shoe-horning one into the Playstation 3. All the while, the HD DVD camp has done very little to bring their costs down to counter the slow progress that Blu-ray is posting.

Consumers are once again going to get the short end of the stick and high-definition content in the home will be relegated to the miniscule amount of HD television that is broadcast and watching high-definition trailers on Apple's Quicktime site.

I don't know about you, but Scarlett Johansson's pores just aren't worth the price of half a semester of tuition.

Being an entertainment editor is hard work; you have to put up with the plethora of free shit you get everyday, and sometimes, enough is enough.

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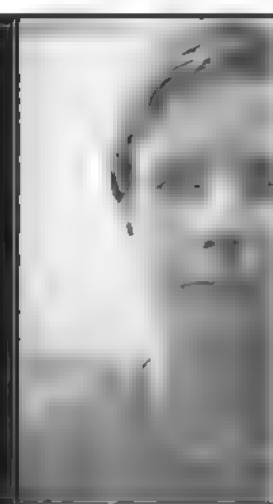
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**Saosin**

Saosin  
Capitol Records  
[www.saosin.com](http://www.saosin.com)

RYAN KENNY  
Arts & Entertainment Writer

Saosin is a post-hardcore band. What "post-hardcore" means, exactly, is anyone's guess, but if their debut album is any indication of the quality of music this genre has to offer, you might want to check it out further, even if genres tend to be for suckers.

Although this is Saosin's first full-length, they already enjoy a sizeable—and deserving—fan base resulting from extensive touring, two EPs and the magic of the World Wide Web. Aside from the legwork of promoting the album, the record itself features guitar work that is technical and nearly always distorted. The drums are amazingly detailed and unrelenting, and after a while, you may feel like you want a

break from the onslaught. However, when "I Never Wanted To," starts out slow, you immediately want the loudness back; indeed, this flip-flopping of texture is what they do best. The vocals are also an added treat. Rather than unnecessarily screaming, a trait often plaguing music of this style, the listener hears distinguishable, polished pipes, courtesy of lead singer Cove Reber.

When it all comes together, the resulting sound is thunderous, yet remarkably melodic, making for a surprisingly accessible record. If you like rock music, in any of its varying forms, Saosin will likely have an appeal, even if you don't know what post-hardcore means.

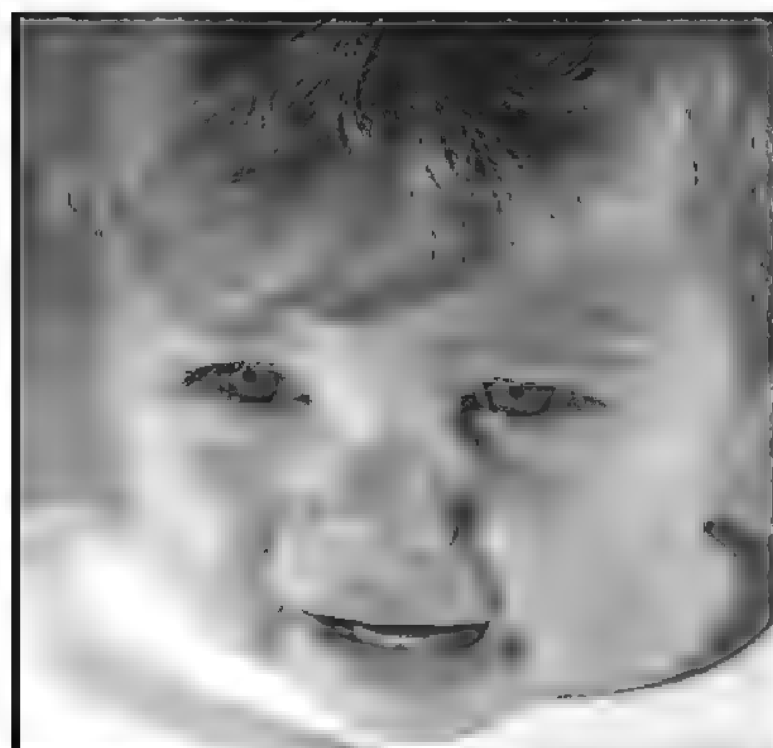


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## The Queen rules the screen

### The Queen

Directed by Stephen Frears  
Starring Helen Mirren, Michael Sheen and James Cromwell  
Empire Theatres  
Opens Friday 27 October

PATRICK ROSS  
Arts & Entertainment Staff

If there's any one institution that remains unique to Britain, it's the British monarchy. And if there's one movie that tells the tale of monarchy enduring one of its greatest trials, that film would be *The Queen*.

*The Queen* is situated during the month of May, 1997. Tony Blair (Martin Sheen) has just been elected Prime Minister of Britain. Riding on a wave of populism, he brings a promise of modernization that threatens to overthrow the traditional institutions that Queen Elizabeth II (Helen Mirren) holds so dear.

Upon the first meeting between Blair and the Queen, the tension is absolutely palpable. The Windsors feel Blair represents a threat to the traditional values the monarchy represents, as Blair's "call me Tony" informality mixes poorly with the Queen's obsession with protocol.

The film then abruptly shifts to August of the same year. Blair's government is still in its infancy, and the Windsors have endured months of scandal over the relationship between Diana Spencer (former princess of

Wales) and Dodi Fayed, a coupling made public by the paparazzi and the news media. Then, as anyone not living under a rock that year can attest, tragedy strikes: Diana and Dodi are involved in a paparazzi-precipitated car wreck that ultimately takes the lives of both.

As the British public flock to Buckingham Palace to partake in the public grieving over the death of the "People's Princess," the Windsors retreat to their Scottish estate at Balmoral.

As the lavish world around the Windsors threatens to tumble around their feet, Blair takes up a feverish effort to assuage the British people. Enraged by what they perceive as—and really is—a lack of care for the mother of the future king, the public turns against the monarchy. Prince Phillip (played by the ever-ingenious James Cromwell) even describes Diana as "more annoying dead than alive."

Mirren turns in a magnificently regal performance. Even in the depths of the Queen's most intense emotions, she perfectly mimics the stoic façade expected of royalty. Mirren manufactures a sense of desperate urgency around this atmosphere of indifference, all the while managing to keep up appearances despite the obvious wellspring of grief, guilt and jealousy congregating just below the surface.

However, while Mirren seems to rule the screen, Sheen portrays Tony

Blair in a manner that few would recognize, especially when placed in comparison with the Blair of today. Youthful, idealistic and energetic, Blair seems at times overwhelmed by the events consuming the earliest days of his tenure as prime minister.

The acting might be fickle at times, but as far as the cinematography goes, *The Queen* presents an image of a royal family shockingly alienated and disconnected from the people that Blair is so in touch with. As their subjects mourn, the Windsors obstinately struggle to resolve the conflict between responding to the emotional needs of their grieving people and maintaining royal protocol.

In addition, *The Queen* is constantly interspersed with news footage related to Diana's death. Director Stephen Frears creates an atmosphere of authenticity, causing viewers to recall their exact emotions when they were first informed of Diana's death, especially those feelings that emerged when they first saw the footage in question.

There are countless clichés that could be used to describe a film like *The Queen*—"gripping" comes to mind, as does "captivating." The movie may be both of these, but moreover, it's demanding and challenging. *The Queen* comes across less as a scathing statement on the value of the monarchy, and more as an invitation to viewers to explore their own feelings on the issue.



### The Stills

Without Feathers  
Vice Recordings  
www.thestills.net

KRISTINA DE GUZMAN  
Arts & Entertainment Staff

Anyone who was completely in love with the Stills' first album and was expecting another *Logic Will Break Your Heart* will have to learn to suck it up and remain open to the band's follow-up, *Without Feathers*—especially since drummer David Hamelin replaced lead vocalist Tim Fletcher, leaving Fletcher to shine vocally in only three songs, one of them being the catchy, poetic "Helicopters."

Surprisingly, the musical change overshadows the change in vocal lineup. While one has to be living in a dream world to expect any self-respecting musician to put out the same album twice, it feels like a different band is behind this musical

rollercoaster. "She's Walking Out" is a lament on lost love with a tone of nonchalance. "In the End" is an exceptional piano ballad with a chorus that one can't help but sing along to, while "Ok Shoplifter" takes a lively turn with cowbells hammering in the background and the trend continues with "It Takes Time," a poppy but undoubtedly catchy tune. And despite its being about a potential criminal, "The Destroyer" sounds more fitting for a marching band.

The Stills haven't completely lost their original entity, however, as most of their lyrics remain dark and romantic. All the other changes, though, are more than welcomed.

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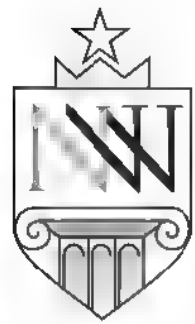
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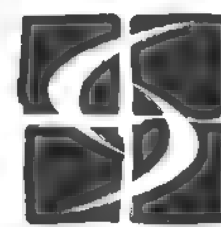
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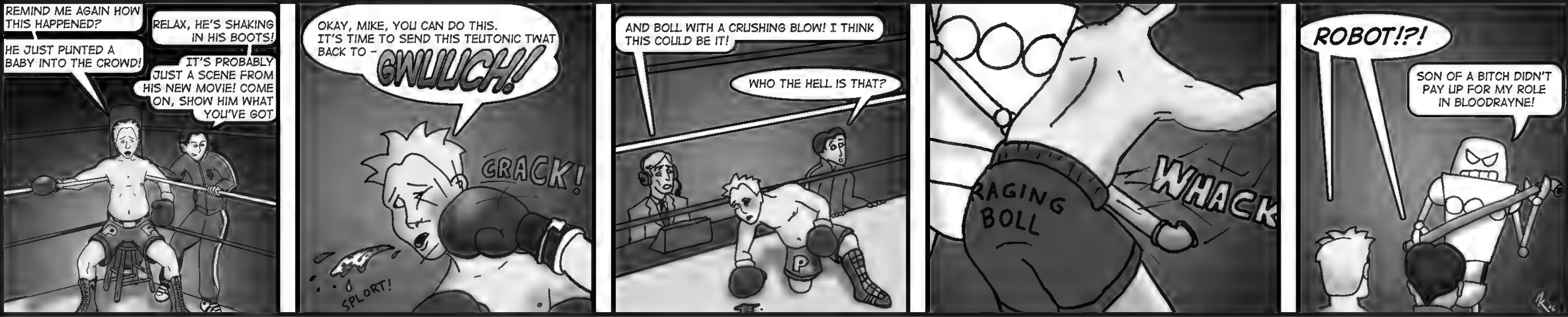
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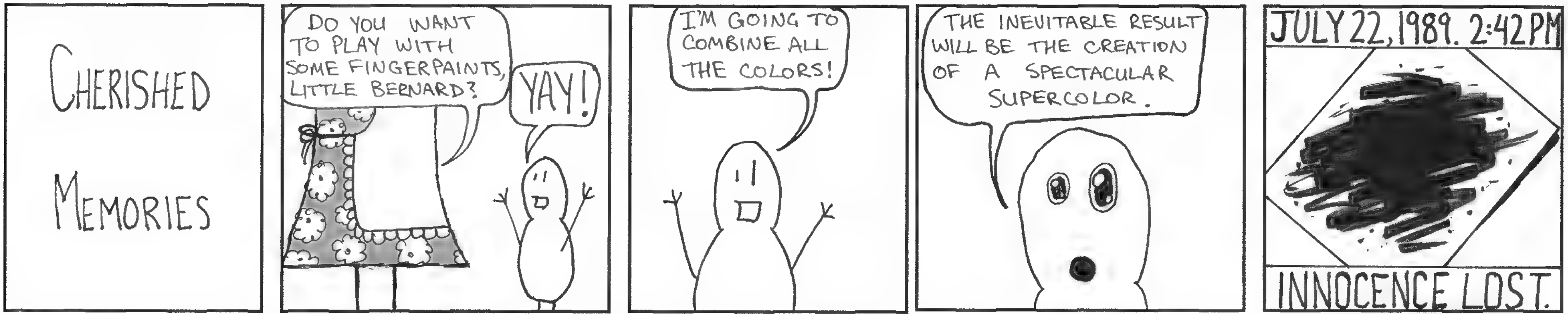
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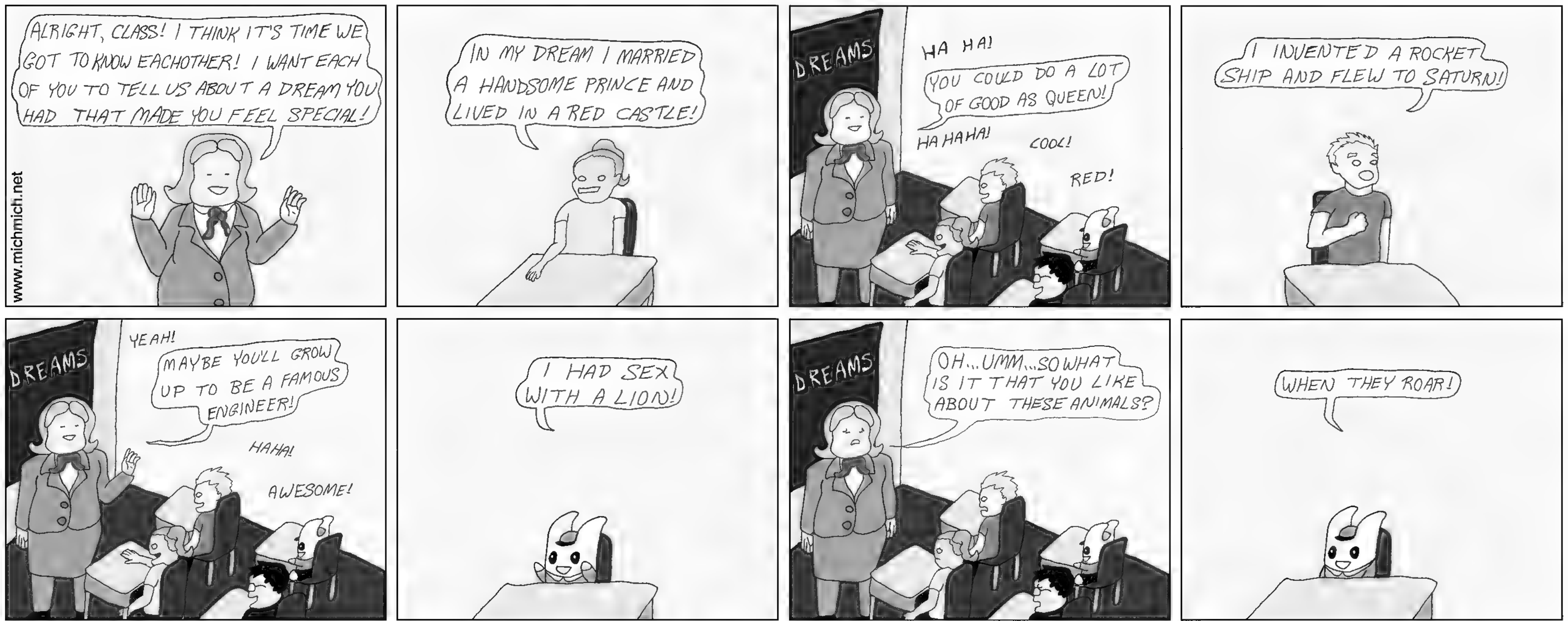
LOGIC PUZZLE by Scott C Bourgeois



PEANUT & CIRCLE by Chris Krause



MICH MICH by Shaun Lyons





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colophon

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LSD studies shouldn't be dropped: Dyck

LSD • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

However, in an article published in the journal *Social History of Medicine*, Dyck recently showed that there may be good reasons to re-examine these experiments. She hopes that closer examination will lead to a fuller understanding of alcoholism, especially the emotional aspect of the addiction.

The past experiments would take place in a private room during which a nurse and/or psychiatrist would continually offer positive reinforcement while the drug took effect. The following day, subjects were encouraged to compose a written description of their experience allowing the

researchers to keep records.

Conventional treatment programs, such as Alcoholics Anonymous (AA), include support systems that deal with the social aspects of why a person may be drinking.

"These support systems are actually closely related to the idea of using LSD as a treatment," said Dyck.

In fact, according to Dyck, LSD therapy may offer a better option for certain individuals.

"For some people, going to AA once a week represents a clash of environments," Dyck said. "Psychedelic therapy offers a more comfortable surrounding where withdrawn individuals can feel at ease."

Another similarity between LSD treatments and AA is the idea of a higher power. Step number two in AA reinforces the belief that a power greater than the patient is needed to restore self-control. Interestingly, LSD users often say that the experience generates a sense of spirituality. The treatment, according to Dyck, thus addresses the spiritual aspect of therapy, something that is left out of many medical models.

Since the treatment consists of a one-time dose, the risk of chemical dependence or flashbacks appears to be negligible.

"The studies showed that only a minority of the patients showed

anything remotely close to overly negative effects from the LSD," Dyck explained.

Acting as a chemical analog to group therapy, LSD may allow otherwise desperate individuals to re-examine themselves both spiritually and emotionally; something that many feel is essential to successfully overcoming alcoholism.

Regardless of whether or not the LSD treatment, or similar methods, will ever be used again, Dyck believes that a re-examination of the experiments done in the '50s should be done, and hopes that it would reveal a great deal more about the disease than we know now.

Bay building balances between past and present

Redesign plan will allow for University's expansion, while maintaining the building's heritage site status

BAY • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

During TEC Edmonton's presentation, various floor plans, diagrams and artist renderings highlighted Enterprise Square's exterior and interior designs. Floor plans will include modern customizable office and laboratory spaces, meeting spaces, a variety of business services, art galleries, and an atrium that will allow daylight to enter.

"We plan on cutting an atrium right down through the middle of the concrete structure to allow daylight to get into the middle of each floor," said Leujeune, who emphasized that care must be taken to preserve the building's historical designation.

"When it was built, it was to be a department store, so it didn't have an awful lot of windows. The challenge

to the design team was how to make penetrations in this exterior skin [of the building] and allow daylight in as much as possible," he said.

Another challenge was the addition of the fourth floor—which increased the U of A's spending from \$62 million to \$80 million.

"[R]ight now, steel is going up for that fourth floor. So it will be a steel

structure on top of a concrete structure," Leujeune said.

Other tenants in the building include the Edmonton Art Gallery, Office of Alumni Affairs, galleries for Industrial Design and the Faculty of Extension, retail spaces and other business support services.

Occupancy of Enterprise Square is expected to begin in August 2007.

STREETERS

A recent study in Mumbai, India has drawn a correlation between cellphone use and low male fertility.

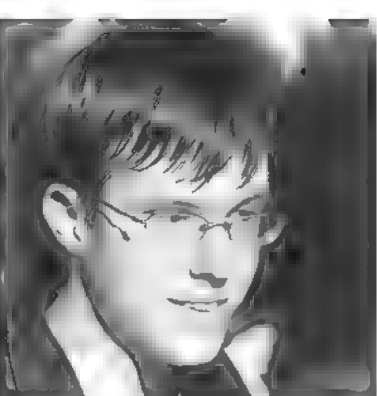
Will this change the amount of time you spend on your cellphone?



Abbeir Hussein  
Science III



Brandon Kerfoot  
Arts II



Brett Feland  
Chemistry II



Dion Malden  
Zoology IV

If I was a man? I doubt it. I mean, these study correlations are weak so no it wouldn't [change my mind] if I was a man, but I am not. This is really weird.

I do not spend time on a cellphone as is. I hate cellphones with a passion. I guess it would not change anything if I do not use them.

Probably not. I do not spend all that much time on my cellphone. I just use it for emergencies or occasionally when I need it throughout the day. So no I do not think so.

No. I do not think it is a proven study yet. It is only one study, right? When they have come out with three or four more studies that show the exact same thing then yeah that would probably effect the amount of time I use of my cellphone.

Compiled and photographed by Kim Misutka and Mike Otto



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ANDREW RURAK

**A HEALTH FARE SYSTEM** U of A Associate Professor John Church has argued against increased health-care user fees.

# Fraser Institute places public health care under microscope

Experts discuss think-tank's annual report, which recommends major changes to the current health-care system, such as the addition of user fees

CHLOÉ FEDIO  
Managing Editor

Health care in Canada is financially unsustainable as provincial government spending on the public service is eating up progressively larger amounts of money, according to a report released by the Fraser Institute earlier this month. *Paying More, Getting Less 2006: Measuring the Sustainability of Public Health Insurance in Canada*, the institute's third annual report, outlines that Alberta is projected to spend 50 per cent of all revenues on health care by 2017.

"Public health expenditures are growing faster on average than total revenues available to each of the provinces," said Brett J Skinner, author of the report. "What that means is that public health expenditures are consuming over time a larger and larger share of the money that's available in each of the provinces, which leaves less proportionally for other things like education and social welfare and transportation, infrastructure et cetera."

John Church, associate professor at the Centre for Health Promotion Studies at the University of Alberta, said that Albertans are expecting a certain level of health care, but they want to continue to pay low taxes, which can no longer support the system.

"Raising taxes has become increasingly unpopular," Church said. "If we want to continue to sustain the level of services that we're providing, then one of the options is that we're going to have to pay more taxes. You only get what you're willing to pay for, whether it's public or private."

Skinner explained that Manitoba and Saskatchewan are the most urgent cases, projected to consume half of all revenues as early as 2016, and that six out of the ten provinces will spend 100 per cent of all revenue on health care by 2050 if reforms don't take place.

"It's nothing unexpected," said Ryan Lee, associate professor at Haskayne School of Business at the University of Calgary. "This is a wake-up call. Canadians need to understand that it can't stay this way and be feasible."

The report suggested some solutions to the growing cost, including a proposal to institute user fees, which means patients would have to pay a \$5–10 fee in order to see a doctor.

"If there's no price at the point of service, the patient has no incentive to be responsible about the kind of health care they demand, substituting low-cost things that are just as effective for high-cost things and they have no incentive to use only as much health care as they truly need," Skinner said.

**"Right now we have a system where there's no cost to me except for my time to go see a practitioner. And there are people in this world who have nothing but time."**

RYAN LEE,  
U OF C ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR

Lee, an expert in risk management and insurance, agreed with the institution of user fees, which would give people the incentive to take more responsibility for their own health, and reduce patients going to the doctor for the common cold.

"Right now we have a system where there's no cost to me except for my time to go see a practitioner. And there are people in this world who have nothing but time," Lee said.

But Church argued that people in the lower socio-economic brackets were likely to be more directly affected by user fees than other patients, creating an unfair system.

"I think that the evidence to date is that user fees can act as a deterrent to service utilization, and they can be a particular deterrent for those people who have the fewest resources—so poor people," Church said.

The Alberta Medical Association estimates that the province is currently short about 1000 doctors, but Church argued that physicians should only deal with the more complex health problems, leaving other health-care providers to screen patients.

"I'm not convinced that we have as much of a shortage of physicians as some people say," Church said. "Delivery of care should change so that physicians would only see a narrower range of patients."

Church said that using a team approach to delivery in the primary

care setting can free up more physicians as nurse practitioners take on a greater role, thus taking pressure off the public system. He suggested a more preventative approach to care, which would in turn reduce costs.

"The focus is still on treating people after they've gotten sick and what is missed in all this is if we could start addressing the issues that lead to people getting sick, then ultimately we're going to decrease demand on the health-care system," Church said.

Church pointed to the link between chronic disease and obesity, which ultimately causes higher health-care costs.

"We have a whole generation of kids now that are seen as being, on average, overweight, compared to other generations," Church said. "If we really want to deal with this, we need to be paying serious attention to that side of the equation."

But Lee suggested that by increasing private care options, the burden on the public system would be alleviated. He pointed to medical contracts with private surgical facilities in Calgary, which do a set number of procedures around joint replacement and eye surgery.

"We know there's an MRI out there for the Calgary Flames," said Lee, referring to the Canada Diagnostics Centres, which provides advanced diagnostic testing for the NHL team. "But if they're not dealing with a Flames' injury every single minute of the day that the machine could be run, why shouldn't we open the ability for someone who's willing to pay for that?"

"On the surface it seems that we're catering to the rich, but the issue really becomes what it does to the system after the fact," Lee said, arguing that, ultimately, it would reduce pressure on the public system.

Skinner said private health care falls in line with the Supreme Court's June 2005 ruling in the *Chaoulli* case, which struck down Québec's ban on private health insurance.

"What we're talking about is breaking up the public monopoly, and not letting the government have a monopoly over the payment of hospital and physician services but allowing people to seek private payment if they want to and that would include, of course, allowing people to buy private insurance to cover those things," Skinner said.

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# Hancock urges student involvement in Tory race

CHLOÉ FEDIO  
Managing Editor

Dave Hancock, former minister of advanced education, was on campus last week, providing free food and beer to students as he discussed his campaign for leadership of the provincial Conservatives.

As he addressed a crowd of 30 at the Powerplant, one point of interest was the drawn-out postsecondary review, which began under Hancock's reign as minister. A University of Alberta alumni, Hancock resigned from his post in April to run for party leadership and was replaced by Denis Herard.

"One of the most difficult issues that I've had to face was leaving the department at the time that I did, because a lot of the work that I was pursuing wasn't complete. You don't get to choose your timing in this process," Hancock said.

After the initial January 2005 consultations aimed at making changes to the system, Premier Ralph Klein made a promise in February of the same year to create in Alberta the most affordable tuition policy in the country. In June 2005, the *A Learning Alberta* review began, headed by a 17 member Steering Committee. And though the results of the review were announced this summer, the new tuition policy has yet to be revealed.

Prior to the review, the tuition policy in Alberta stated that 30 per cent of a university's budget could be derived from tuition fees. But in May 2006, despite criticism from student groups and Opposition MLAs, the government passed Bill 40, which removed tuition policy from legislation and placed it in regulation—allowing future policies to be established without debate in the Legislature.

"It wasn't a good action, to say that we're going to have a new tuition policy so we have to get rid of the old one. The old one provided a ceiling," said Hancock, who described the bill

as "disappointing."

"I'd argued that that wasn't necessary to do because by doing that we've created a lot of distrust at a time when we really needed to build on the trust," said Hancock, who's been the MLA for Edmonton-Whitemud since 1997. "We went backwards, in my view. That took the discussion off on a different tangent, and it became a discussion about trust, rather than a discussion about progress."

Minister Herard was unavailable to comment on the criticism, but Michael Shields, director of communications at Alberta Advanced Education, said that the tuition policy is on the way.

"We're not involved in what any of the candidates are saying with regards to postsecondary education, I just need to be clear about that," Shields said. "From our perspective, it's business as usual."

The vote for the next leader of the Progressive Conservatives will occur on 25 November, and Hancock encouraged students to buy a \$5 party membership to be eligible to vote. To win, a candidate must garner more than 50 per cent of votes cast by party members, and if no single candidate receives that support, the top three will face off in a second vote on 2 December.

"If you care about what kind of a future we have in the province, you have a chance to affect that," Hancock said, adding that the next leader could stay in power for the next two years, setting the agenda for Alberta.

"Public policy is a very messy process, and it should be messy—people should be involved in it," he said. "The first stage of participation is being part of the selection of the next leader."

Eight candidates are vying for Klein's job including Ed Stelmach, Lyle Oberg, Mark Norris, Ted Morton, Jim Dinning, Victor Doerksen, Gary McPherson and Hancock. Alana Delong, the only female candidate in the race, dropped out on 11 October.

# Delong drops from leadership fight

CATHERINE SCOTT  
News Writer

Alana Delong, who was the only female candidate running for Tory leadership, has recently withdrawn from the heated race. The loss of the only woman in the race has brought up some questions about gender roles in politics in Canada.

"I've got some very strong ideas in terms of how to move forward as a province. [But I was] struggling with the whole concept of actually being premier and I think that's actually something that I share with a lot of women. I'm very goal-oriented when it comes to accomplishing things, but not especially when it comes to power," Delong said.

Nevertheless, she insists that gender was not a deciding issue in her withdrawal. Steve Patten, associate chair for the Undergraduate Department of Political Science at the U of A, believes her to some extent, but also said that there's some foundation to the gender question. He claims that women are not taken as seriously in politics because of the way society views the role of the leader in Western society.

**"There weren't [many] serious women candidates ... that's what's really disappointing."**

**STEVE PATTEN,  
ASSOCIATE CHAIR,  
DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE**

"The way society [is] constructed, most men have more masculine personalities and most women have more feminine personalities. The way in which we define leadership is imbued with masculine traits about being strong and definitive ... that doesn't mean that there won't be women who are successful [in politics] and it also doesn't entirely explain [why Alana Delong withdrew] because she



MATT FREHNER

**ALBERTA BOUND** Alana Delong, who dropped out of the Conservative leadership race, says her political career is committed to what's best for the province.

already had a reputation as a politician," Patten said.

Delong admitted that she wasn't ready for the all of the responsibility that comes with job of premier.

"It just takes incredible energy to be premier. It's long hours and it's not easy work. Part of stepping forward as premier is essentially making a ten-year commitment, because you've got to be willing to commit to two terms," Delong stated.

Patten believes that Delong may have been persuaded to join the race because she was a woman, but regardless of her gender, he said he isn't convinced she was a strong enough candidate.

"Part of that has to do with her own strengths and weaknesses as a politician, but added to the mix for her is the gender equation. She ends up withdrawing because she can't raise the money, she can't put together the kind of campaign team that's needed—she was encouraged by some almost [like] a token woman candidate. These are the things that made it impossible for her to be successful in the end," Patten affirmed.

Patten also pointed out that though

the Progressive Conservative party has been in power for so long, there aren't many women willing to run for leadership.

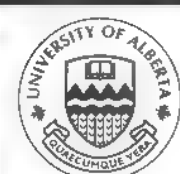
"There weren't [many] serious women candidates who could really make a difference ... that's what's really disappointing," Patten said.

Delong did address the fact that there are so few women ready to take on the leadership role.

"There are some very powerful women in our caucus who would have been good contenders in this race. Of course, obvious ones are Shirley McClellan and Iris Evans—[both] extremely capable in what they've accomplished, [but] they both see themselves as moving towards the ends of their careers," Delong observed.

Delong says her vision for the province is to get things accomplished, no matter who's in power.

"My goals were goals of purpose rather than goals of power. I want this province to go in the right direction. It doesn't matter to me who is taking on the job of premier. It was not a personal goal, it was a goal for Alberta," she said.



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# Campaign proclaims Harper and Bush Brokeback buddies

Stickers raise eyebrows around Concordia, but some doubt their effectiveness

GIUSEPPE VALIANTE  
The Link

MONTRÉAL (CUP)—The youth wing of the Liberal party wants to highlight what it sees as the close relationship between US President George Bush and Prime Minister Stephen Harper.

They've sent out around 100 stickers to their university campus chapters across the country in hopes of stirring debate among young Canadians on what they see as a concerning trend.

"[The stickers] are kind of a fun thing, but at the same time it's highlighting an important message: our Prime Minister Stephen Harper is the ideological soulmate of George W Bush," said Richard Diamond, president of the Young Liberals of Canada.

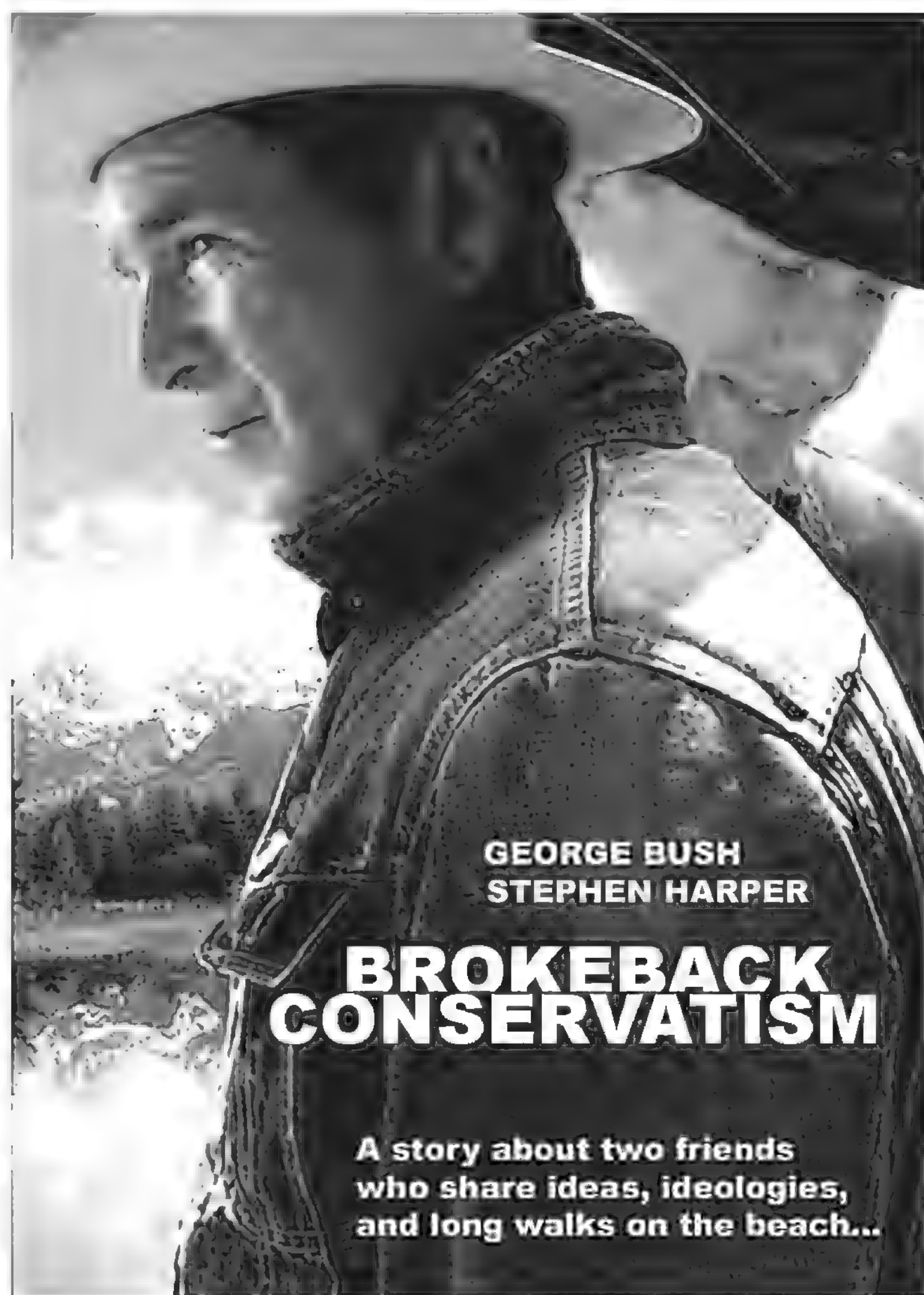
The stickers feature the two politicians in the poster for the movie *Brokeback Mountain*, about an affair between two cowboys. The Young Liberal version is titled *Brokeback Conservatism* and carries the tagline: "A story about two friends who share ideas, ideologies, and long walks on the beach ..."

Diamond believes young Canadians should be concerned about the relationship between the two leaders. He gave the example of how Harper plans on discarding the Kyoto protocol and is opening up the debate about same-sex marriage.

"To me, [same-sex marriage] is an issue of equality. [Harper] wants to reopen this discussion, these are things that smack of George W Bush Republicanism," Diamond said.

However, Nick Blesser, former vice-president of the Young Liberals at Montréal's Concordia University, doesn't think the sticker campaign is effective, although he does believe that Harper is, in some ways, similar to Bush.

"I think [the campaign] is a little over the top. I don't think that they have that much in common," he said. "I think it's demonizing both individuals, which isn't always a good idea. It creates more skepticism, and



A CROSSBORDER AFFAIR Québec Young Liberals are hoping to rope in voters.

there is already too much of that among young people today."

Concordia University communications major Maxine Dore doesn't like the artwork or what's seen as the target audience. "It's effective for smart-ass hipsters, but nobody really cares what they have to say."

Dore said the Young Liberals are wasting their time trying to reach the university demographic altogether, arguing that the people who matter—businessmen and older generations—aren't sold.

"The people who matter when it comes to making political decisions aren't going to pay attention to this," Dore said. "The people who don't matter will pay attention."

"George found a real buddy in Stephen Harper," Diamond said, adding that he thinks this will be an issue brought up at the upcoming Liberal policy and leadership convention in Montréal at the end of November.

Four delegates from each of the 55 Young Liberal university chapters will attend the conference.

## 'Unbiblical' creation debate spawns protest at Trinity Western University

ANGELA WIEBE  
Mars' Hill

LANGLEY, BC (CUP)—In an effort to secure a meeting with Trinity Western University's Board of Governors, Cam Copeland has stood guard with a homemade protest sign at the University's entrance for several days over the past three weeks.

Copeland, the father of a 1985 TWU alumnus, has held a regular demonstration in protest of what he calls unbiblical teaching by some of the University's professors.

"I'm concerned about the fact that the University has people on staff that openly deny Genesis," he said.

Copeland said he first took note of a TWU professor's stance on creation as recorded in Genesis 1:11 after attending a conference on the subject held on campus last spring.

According to Copeland, two professors spoke in condescending tones towards the conference's speaker and claimed the Bible's creation story was nothing more than a myth.

"Once you start to say that, where does the rest of the Bible fall?" Copeland asked at the TWU campus entrance.

But Dirk Buchner, a religious studies professor, denies Copeland's assertions, stating that he never claimed the biblical story of creation to be non-historical.

"I think I was just trying to say that these guys should not read Genesis as literal history, but as a metaphor," Buchner said. "[The Bible] wishes to tell us that God made the world, not how God made the world."

Buchner said he originally attended the conference last spring in order to protest against the view of a literal, six-day creation story.

He said it's foolish to believe that the Earth was created in six days, adding that those that view Genesis 1:11 as 100 per cent literal are "really very unskilled" at reading the Bible.

Buchner asserted further that conference attendees such as Copeland had misconstrued his arguments. His public statements never claimed the creation story to be mythological, he noted.

"I feel they are a dangerous group," Buchner said of those that hold a literal creation view. "They are very, very isolationist."

According to Buchner, many supporters of the six-day creation story disregard any scholarship that refutes their claims.

Copeland and Buchner met for the first time last Wednesday as they debated both sides of the creation argument. While both men left the meeting on what Buchner called "friendly terms," Copeland is unsure on whether he will continue his protest or not.

"I don't want to hurt anyone," Copeland said, "But the overall truth is more important than any one person, including myself."

Although TWU has no intentions of prohibiting Copeland from protesting in the future, as he's on land owned by the Township of Langley, the University also has no intentions of accommodating his request to meet with the Board of Governors.

"We have no further plans at this point," said Glen Forrester, executive assistant to the President.

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## Party on, Garth

THERE WERE TWO CONTROVERSIES WITHIN the federal Conservative Party's ranks last week: one concerning an outspoken MP who publicly criticized his party, and another concerning a relatively less outspoken MP who's alleged to have slandered a member of the pesky official opposition.

Given this information, I'll give you two guesses as to which of the two got kicked out of their party.

If, by this point, you haven't guessed Halton MP Garth Turner, then you should probably just flip to the Comics section. Because yes, it's indeed the suddenly independent Turner who has been booted out of the Conservative party for being "too critical of his colleagues" and because "the theme of confidentiality was not being respected" on his daily blog ([www.garth.ca/weblog](http://www.garth.ca/weblog)). In other words, Turner had the audacity to speak his mind—both within and outside of Parliament and caucus chambers—about his party and others, and for that he was given the boot.

Meanwhile, a few seats down the row in Parliament, media darling (and high-ranking Foreign Affairs Minister) Peter Mackay was allegedly caught on tape infamously implying ex-beau Belinda Stronach's resemblance to the canine species of which he's so fond. Only the most recent in a long rap sheet of derogatory comments towards women, the Liberal Party, or both, Mackay's comment was met with decidedly less chastising from his party. Indeed, compared to Turner's censoring, the Conservatives' response to Mackay's sharp tongue thus far can be summed up as his tree-house buddies patting his back and saying, "Ooh, burn!" in the general direction of Stronach's newly distanced seat.

Aside from this blatantly hypocritical behaviour, there's also a rich irony in all this: after all, part of the Conservatives' election platform was one of government transparency, yet as soon as Turner "leaked" a bit of intra-caucus information (the secret nature of which is highly debatable), he got publicly canned.

To continue with the irrelevant *Wayne's World* references, the Conservative's inconsistent response is, in essence, the equivalent of saying, "asphinctersayswhat," and then slapping that person when they say "what?"

But no matter how you feel about Turner's actions, you have to admit that Rahim Jaffer, the *de facto* disciplinarian in this case by virtue of his role as caucus chair, could have at least had the tact to inform Turner of the party's decision beforehand. Instead, Turner said he found out about his unceremonious ejection via the media, and indeed has yet to be personally notified.

Always a step or three ahead of his party, Turner saw his own demise on the horizon likely before anyone else did, and predicted as much on his blog. As he put it, "My refusal to play the role requested of me will, I am sure, lead to my political demise. But each day I am an MP will be spent answering to the voters and taxpayers first, and my political master second."

Earlier in the year, before the winds of controversy really started swirling, Turner offered up this gem: "Dissenting opinions have a very valid place within great parties. They show debate, the clash of ideas, an open-mindedness and an acceptance, even if grudging, of other points of view. Families fight. Couples squabble. Teams have issues. So, how believable is a caucus where every single member comes out of a room saying exactly the same thing?"

Alas, such high-minded philosophizing clearly has no place in Canadian politics. One pretty much has to sit as an Independent in order to harbour such notions, as the power struggles and spin doctoring of big-party politics stifles whatever dying gasps of democratic duty and political fortitude with which the most idealistic MPs may have gone into the House of Commons. And while this state of affairs is nothing new, Turner's recent shunning is a depressing reminder nonetheless.

The silver lining in all this is that the renegade Turner is now a free man, no longer required to toe the party line or to worry about what "secrets" he can and cannot divulge—all in all, a much better fit for the former journalist. Indeed, his penchant for reportage has still not left him (he runs MPtv as well, on which he interviews politicians from all parties), and this thirst for the dissemination of information has ultimately proven his demise. That is, his demise as a member of the Conservative Party, a political stripe in which he was clearly never all that comfortable anyway. Here's hoping that he flourishes as an impassioned and controversial Independent MP instead.

ADAM GAUMONT  
Opinion Editor



CONAL PIERCE

## LETTERS

### Some feedback on SUB-par wireless signals

Re: "A fatal error has occurred if you relied on campus computing" (12 October). Mr Williams' article unfortunately mistakes the problems of the SUB wireless network with errors on the part of Academic Information and Communication Technologies (AICT). SUB wireless is maintained by the Students' Union in partnership with AICT. AICT helps the SU in solving problems with SUB's wireless. We are very aware that there are issues of SUB wireless and are working to find the source of the problem in order to get our coverage fixed as soon as possible. AICT has been cooperative in working with us on this front, even agreeing to wait to respond to Mr Williams until I had the opportunity to collect all the facts. While last week's *Council Forum* did in fact mention that this investigation was taking place, I feel it is necessary to reiterate that the SU in fact in the process of identifying the source of and solving this problem.

If there are noticeable problems in any non-SUB network, then that is an issue for AICT and they would like to hear from you. If any student has difficulty with AICT after contacting them, please let me know—I'd definitely like to see your concerns addressed.

AMANDA HENRY  
VP Academic

### Students' Union puts U, one S in 'useless'

It must be some sort of right of passage for new students to rail against all the mandatory university fees we must pay when we obviously gain so little from them (re: "Finish line now in sight for U-pass referendum,"

19 October). \$23 for health services, though it's all covered by Alberta health care; \$55 for Athletics and Rec, which I can't help but believe subsidizes the sports teams that it should be a privilege to play for; and of course the vague "student services" which seems to be the sort of thing that tuition was designed to pay for.

Mostly, though, I've been wondering about the approximately \$64 I pay to the Students' Union every semester, and what exactly I get for that. The Union sure hasn't succeeded in keeping tuition affordable, for one thing. It turns out that our mandatory SU fees have been paying for the SU to enable us to pay even *more* mandatory fees in the form of the \$75 universal bus pass!

Encouraging the use of public transportation over automobile travel is certainly a good thing, considering this province's role in the destruction of our environment, but I fail to see why current walkers and cyclists have to pay for other students to ride the bus, and why university must become even more unaffordable to us, so it can become more affordable to them.

How about a mandatory bike-purchase and -maintenance fee to encourage cycling? Cycling is even better for our environment, keeps one healthy and strong enough to not need the \$55 rec fee, and in most cases, it's much faster than public transportation. People that previously rode their bikes or walked to school may now choose to ride the bus, since they are paying for it anyway, and so the most environmentally friendly commuters are not only being punished, they may be reduced in numbers.

ROB FOUND  
Science I

### Pin article pushes the wrong buttons

If there's one thing I dislike more than political apathy, it's people writing

articles encouraging forms of political apathy. Sure, you hate politics, and you hate seeing people jumping on the "trendy bandwagon of political awareness," but why do I have to hear about it? Maybe you think solidarity is dumb, but do you think that writing an opinion article for the *Gateway* is going to make me stop wearing my anti-vivisection shirt or my "Bush is a Terrorist" pin?

Contrary to these blowhards, I think that political awareness in any form is a positive thing, and I welcome it in almost any form. The majority of North America is dangerously politically inactive, which leads to the elections of the Bushes, the Harpers and the Kleins, who in turn represent the rest of us and fuck us over, not to mention other nations and the ecosphere (a trend one would notice by pending more than 15 minutes researching an article). I would rather see a Stop Bush button than one more of those dumb "I (heart) Alberta Beef" bumper stickers. Of course, I'll admit wearing a button is not going to change the world, but what exactly are the apathetic complainers like yourself doing about changing the world?

DALLAS THOMPSON  
Education III

### Tanasiuk pinpoints problem with politics

Thank you! Oh, thank you so much for writing this article (re: "Don't pin your hopes on a stupid button," 19 October). Whoever's idea it was to write this story is a genius. It amazes me how much people think wearing a pin or a T-shirt makes a difference. It doesn't! Especially about US politics!

I'm just glad to know I'm not alone in this institution, full of now-socialist-but-when-they-make-their-own-money-have-suddenly-become-liberally-conservative [people], in thinking political change doesn't start with fashion, it starts with the ballot box. That's not to say fashion statements don't have

their place, but do we *all* need to be wearing "America needs to shave its Bush" buttons? Why can't we wear buttons that mean something to us, as Canadians?

Maybe next time, before someone decides to buy their anti-US button, they might decide to pick up the "It's only the NDP and the Taliban who want us to cut and run" button, or maybe they'll pick up the "The Liberals stole my money" button. I guess it just depends how much he or she wants to conform to the ways of the politically naïve masses.

ALEX HAMILTON  
History II

### Gateway won't get fooled again over geek/nerd distinction

Hey Michael Smith, stop stealing the geek culture (re: "Talkin' 'bout my nerd generation," 19 October). In your article, you complain for longer than should be allowed about poseurs stealing your nerd culture. Now for those true geeks out there, you know the difference between a geek and a nerd thanks to hours of debate on countless message boards. For those who aren't enlightened in the ways of the geek here's the short, short version: Geeks have social skills, nerds don't.

So Michael, just which group do you belong too? Since in your article you talk about the ability to date you must have social skills. Therefore you should be proclaiming yourself as a geek, *not* a nerd. Since the terminology escapes you, you are just another person who's latched on to being a geek because right now it's cool. Next time, if you're going to represent a group you don't belong to; at least do your research first. And Kirk is way cooler than Picard! 'Nuff said.

VANESSA SZTYM  
Arts III



# Council bus stuck in the mud



ROSS PRUSAKOWSKI

While there are still five months left before we will truly know if Council learned from their mistakes last time they drafted a U-Pass question, the early signs are discouraging. At the last meeting, our elected representative chose to make haste with one of the most important—and expensive—questions ever to face students, and did the rest of us a great disservice. Council took just over two and a half hours to debate a motion on the principles that will form the basis of the new U-Pass question, a motion which, because it was a late addition to the agenda, most councillors were seeing for the first time.

This is a shocking departure for a body that was so concerned about carrying out their fiduciary duty last year that they rejected questions, spent hours debating the fine print and didn't hesitate to table questions while councillors collected their thoughts. If last year's edition of Council had not exercised that caution, students could today be funding a questionable physical activities complex or watching the SU flounder under red ink from \$2 pints of beer.

As approved by Council, the principles that will form the basis of the question are clouded in uncertainty.

“Given the ease with which the principles breezed through Council, it's hard not to lay all the blame for the dubious question at the feet of the entire body—especially after having watched them spend nearly an hour last year debating the exact size in milliliters of a pint.”

It will also be a major departure from the question students voted on in 2003/04, in that there's no provision to exempt students living outside the service area from paying for the U-Pass, meaning that people residing in places beyond the collective transit systems' reach will still have to pay for a U-pass they can't use.

Given the ease with which the principles breezed through Council, it's hard not to lay all the blame for the dubious question at the feet of the entire body—especially after having watched them spend nearly an hour last year debating the exact size in milliliters of a pint. Yet councillors shouldn't shoulder the bulk of the blame. Instead, SU President Samantha Power and Vice President (External) Cournoyer should both bear plenty of responsibility for the poor principles presented to Council.

Not only did Power and Cournoyer spring the question upon councillors with little warning, but they also created a false sense of urgency, threatening them with the supposedly short time frame they had left to approve the principles (a threat they backed up by referencing the three-week break in Council's meeting schedule and the fact that the Bylaw Committee that will be tasked with

drafting the question based on the principles approved by Council was extremely inexperienced).

What they forgot to mention to the mostly first-time councillors is that Council has until 8 February to approve the second reading of a question and can call for additional Council meetings above and beyond those set out at the beginning of the year. Add in the fact that Council has the power to compel a committee to report items to it by a certain date and plenty of time existed for Council to receive presentations from the three transit authorities, the University and the SU's advocacy department itself so it could conduct a proper and well-informed debate.

It seems like it's too much to expect the President and VPX to provide Council with this information when they're debating a question that could collectively cost students more than \$4.5 million a year. Regardless, at this point it seems that the best students can hope for is that these convoluted principles never make it onto the final ballot, but rather become a starting point for an ironclad referendum where students can vote on the merits of the U-Pass alone, and not those of the question's wording.

## Much hot air emitted in carbon tax debate

Done properly, industry should be able to cope with emission restrictions



PATRICK ROSS

No one needs a memo from Greenpeace these days to realize that environmental issues currently occupy a central position in the public agenda. Liberal leadership candidate Michael Ignatieff knows this as well as anyone. Ignatieff has seized upon the imaginations of supporters and opponents alike with his proposed solution to climate change: curtailing greenhouse gases through the application of a carbon tax.

According to the Global Policy Forum, carbon taxes are designed to correct the free market's failure to account for the external costs that the consumption of fossil fuels places on society in terms of environmental damage. Ignatieff's plan is designed to address these externalities by encouraging individuals and industries to use lower-carbon fuels.

His plan has drawn comparisons to Pierre Trudeau's infamous National Energy Program, which to this day remains a point of contention between the Federal Liberals and Alberta. Ignatieff, for his part, insists that he would take steps to protect Alberta from the economic effects (some even suggest economic ruin) that a carbon tax could inflict. But even Ignatieff's fellow Liberals have raised concerns. Stéphane Dion—who, it should be noted, is a former federal environment minister and one of Ignatieff's opponents in the ongoing Liberal leadership

campaign—remarked, “The first sentence he said is, ‘We need to protect Alberta.’ And in the second sentence he said ‘carbon tax.’”

The federal Conservative Party, on the other hand, has announced plans to make strict California-style emissions standards mandatory for automobile manufacturers in Canada. An agreement with automakers is currently in place; these standards are voluntary, however. The Conservatives' plan would take effect in 2010, when the current agreement expires.

**The ridiculous squabbling can ultimately be reduced to a single point: fossil fuels don't become carbon emissions until they are actually burned.**

Buzz Hargrove, president of the union of Canadian Auto Workers, has his share of complaints about this plan. He claims that it would be catastrophic for the Canadian automobile industry. Yet supporters of the tax who acknowledge that it could ruin Western Canada's energy-based economy insist that that should be permitted nonetheless. Perhaps it should be equally okay to implement a plan that could harm the car-manufacturing industry, which, like the energy industry in the West, makes up a significant portion of Eastern Canada's economy.

The ridiculous squabbling can ultimately be reduced to a single point:

fossil fuels don't become carbon emissions until they are actually burned. A carbon tax may seem like a novel idea—especially to those who are hostile to the oil industry. However, regulating emissions at their actual source—where the fuels in question are consumed, then spewed into the air as carbon dioxide—makes a lot more sense, and will have a very real and measurable effect on carbon emissions. Yet one must still recognize that the fuels themselves are a necessary component to this process. Perhaps *both* components should be addressed.

It certainly couldn't hurt to create actual incentives for Canadian industry to reduce their consumption of hydrocarbons and, by extension, their carbon emissions. A carbon tax could have precisely that effect using a revenue-neutral model under which taxes collected are returned to the industries that paid them, depending on each particular company's success in reducing emissions. Then this model must actually be followed. Unfortunately, past experiences with the expected disbursement of such tax revenues—for example, gasoline taxes—don't quite inspire confidence to this end.

Climate change is too critical an issue to allow it to be embroiled in petty bickering between the East and the West. This could be the perfect issue on which to reach a compromise. Perhaps Western leaders should strike a bargain with their Eastern counterparts: let them have their carbon tax, so long as it's accompanied by the plan for California emissions standards. Taken together, the two proposals could become a bi-partisan plan for decisive action, and actually help stem the imminently catastrophic tide of climate change.



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**S.O.S. Saturdays:**  
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# We should care more about student apathy



PAUL  
KNOECHEL

Perhaps I should back up to the Students' Union's latest press-grabbing endeavour over how the government is screwing students yet again: namely, that the promise of an affordable tuition plan is long overdue, and that the SU will count the days on a big pretty sign until Minister of Advanced Education Denis Herard follows through with Klein's promise. Let's just hope that they've got lots of space to expand that number—and plenty of patience, because like bad sex, we'll be waiting a long time for a conclusion that is ultimately dissatisfying.

Now, I'm not slighting the SU. Too often people complain the Students' Union isn't doing enough for students; that they're not getting anything done. That's only right on one out of two counts: the SU is doing everything that it can. It brings attention from the media to concerns of the student body and makes sure our concerns are being voiced to the province's MLAs. But they can work away until old Ralphie succumbs to liver cirrhosis—it's still not going to get any results because they have *absolutely no leverage*.

Students would like to bitch about how they're getting hosed by The Man, but I'm putting it out there that it's their fault they keep getting stepped on and ignored by their representatives. It's their fault because students don't hold the government accountable through the civil right that people the world over have actually died for: they don't vote.

Less than 25 per cent of those aged 18–24 cast ballots in 2000's federal election, and the numbers only get worse

in provincial elections. It dumbfounds me that students will sit there bitching about how the government steps on us, yet they don't do a thing about it. *Wake up!* Politicians walk all over us and ignore us because they *can*. They don't need to give a shit about us because we don't do anything about it.

And don't give me the, "I don't vote because no party does enough for me." Well *duh*, Einstein. What sense does it make for politicians to court the youth vote when so few will turn out to support them come election day? If they want to get a seat in government, they make promises to the people that are going to actually cast ballots for them. And when they're elected, they're going to pass laws that keep those demographics happy. As much as it sucks, it's not surprising.

The only reason Alberta's PCs dared to put through Bill 40—an amendment to the *Postsecondary Learning Act* that took tuition costs out of legislation and into regulation, meaning among other things that the party could make changes to it at any time without legislative debate—was because they knew they wouldn't suffer come next election because of it. If students would just pull themselves out of their drunken stupors for an hour to vote come election time, maybe the big bad PCs would think twice before their next "fuck the students" law.

Come on people, let's back up our SU and vote in students' interests in the next election. They're fighting a David-and-Goliath-type battle, except without some backup from the students they're actually trying to help, they got no rocks, no sling, and no hope. It's the age of the e-mail, and I know just about everyone has a minute to spare to fire off an angry one at our dear Advanced Education Minister Denis Herard (calgary.egmont@assembly.ab.ca). So go ahead and give him an earful—and tell 'im Paul sent ya.

# Controversy needed on campus



CHRIS  
SALTTEL

A sure sign of writer's block is when the margin of my notebook has more ink invested in doodles than the rest of the page does in words. And although my poorly drawn caricature of Hugo Chávez playing *Dance Dance Revolution* might invite some random giggles during physics class, it's hardly the methodic insight I had planned for this page. Instead, I came to an important realization: during my first two months here at the U of A, I've had nothing to attack.

I don't mean a literal attack, I mean a literary attack. There's far too much open-mindedness and tolerance here on campus. Where have all the punk-asses gone? Traditionally, the role of the student has been to provoke progressive change in society, especially when things become stagnant. And as far as governments go, Alberta is about as stagnant as it comes: Klein does a lot more talking about progressive policy change than he does actually writing it. Students at the U of A seem to have adopted this stereotype naturally.

In order for students to incite any change, there must be a difference between the differences. If we all continue to tolerate each other's differences and respect each other's opinions, how can we ever hope to compete with those who willingly break the rules of argumentative engagement? Just because an issue is important to you, that doesn't make it important to anyone else. Conversely, it isn't necessary to care about all the issues at once, as is common on campus.

I see Samantha Power and the SU trying to provoke the province to deliver on its promise of affordable tuition. Here's some news: they don't



PHIL HEAD

**IF YOU'RE HAPPY AND YOU KNOW IT** Our SU execs are far too open-minded

care what you say, and they won't be bothered by your plight or mine—or that of any of the other students in the province. As long as there are students who can afford to go to school, all of us who complain about the cost will just be dismissed as whiners.

It's a simple economic principal. Education is an inelastic demand, which means it will always be in demand regardless of the cost. To exploit this economic phenomenon would seem cruel and unfair—and it is. But who the fuck cares?

That's the kind of jaded argument we're up against. Klein might nod his head and furrow his brow but he's not listening. Ol' Ralphie is trying to remember if he taped last night's episode of *Laguna Beach*. At least I assume he's taken interest in the quandary of Kristen and Stephen, since tuition costs seem to reflect the income of the show's characters. In that show, the students live in roomy apartments, wear designer clothes and drive nice white Jeeps. It's easy to see why Klein thinks we're made of money. He

should watch *Undergrads* instead.

The advice that I have for Samantha Power and all of the students here, then, is to close your minds. Overthought opinions went out with the iPod mini. So get with the nano already, and argue with your natural beliefs, biases and stereotypes instead. Don't tolerate ideas that you don't believe in. Lower yourselves to the level of our leaders. Don't play fair. Call names. Say what shouldn't be said. Cross all the lines without hesitation.

There are a few labels SU could drop regarding the Ralphster, a lot of them dealing with his booze problem, which would have the public's attention with jaws dropped and people waiting to hear what's said next. That might get them sued for slander, but at least people would be interested. I guess the SU could always organize a celebrity wrestling match and pit Samantha Power against Ralph Klein—but that would be too cool to actually happen. Instead they'll probably put up a poster that no one but us students will read.

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## ONE TO ONE

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Edmonton, Alberta

To register phone: 423-9922 Ext. 221

or

email: [information@ywcaofedmonton.org](mailto:information@ywcaofedmonton.org)

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# Let's face it: Facebook is here to stay

Exclusive online community reunites friends, lovers and stalkers alike



ELIZABETH  
MCMILLAN

Step aside Brangelia, there's a new soap opera in town. Say hi to Facebook, an online community that wants to know your deepest secrets—and share them with the world. Forget supermarket tabloids: the hippest university trend is this verifiable stalker's guide, complete with up-to-the-minute information on all your friends' nightly exploits, political views and social affiliations.

The website allows everyone to become their own paparazzi, with picture uploads and profile changes documented on the constantly revolving news reel. Members can log in throughout the day and discover who's at the library, who's talking to whom and who's dating whom. An information freeway, Facebook allows you in many cases to quite literally see into other people's bedrooms.

The appeal for many users is the site's exclusivity. After all, you can only see the profiles of people you are "friends" with, or those with whom you share a network. I know I feel secure knowing that only select people—that is anyone with a U of A e-mail address—can see my personal information.

Possessing all the characteristics of a creepy neighbour, Facebook allows you to monitor people's coming and goings. By browsing profiles you can listen in on their conversations and

evaluate social networks by monitoring their friend expansion. Facebook can even generate drama of its own.

Following the lead of a grade four science experiment, I made a few hypotheses and changed my relationship status from "single" to the elusive "in a relationship." Within minutes, I had received my first response—via Facebook of course. I was glad to know that one of my closest friends knew how to reach me at such a crucial time, since our daily communications had clearly been insufficient to fill her in. I intend to post all future life changing events on Facebook first.

**Masking as a networking tool, the company now has access to key information from its pool of nearly 10 million users. Think you're safe amid your ever-expanding friend list? Think again.**

So what is the point of this time-absorbing black hole? I'm still struggling with that one. But what most registered users will tell you is that it's oddly addictive. It's also revolutionizing the way we socialize. Need to avoid an awkward face-to-face conversation? Just wall-post. Need to advertise your entrepreneur project? Create an

event. Missing your friends from kindergarten? Search them. Nothing says "thinking of you" like a random reunion on the Facebook front page.

Part of the appeal is absorbing all the information people freely exhibit. You get to meet their families, look at their friends and measure compatibility based on similar interests. Hell, Facebook has even created a new genre of "friend." You don't need to have personal contact with someone to add them. But the add reinforces their existence and importance in your life—not to mention your popularity.

Think it's all fun and games? Think again. What started as a Harvard University student's online social network has expanded into an advertising *tour de force*. Earlier this month, Yahoo reportedly offered current Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg between \$800 million and \$1 billion for his creation. The 22-year-old refused, apparently not needing to pay off any student loans.

Currently supported by a \$200 000 Microsoft deal and a staff of 150, Facebook isn't just your friendly Big Brother. It's also an advertiser's dream. Masking as a networking tool, the company now has access to key information from its pool of nearly 10 million users. Think you're safe amid your ever-expanding friend list? Think again.

Don't know what I'm talking about? Look it up. It'll live up to your Internet stalking dreams and pretty soon you'll be spending countless hours furtively glancing at people you think you recognize. And thanks for all the comments, wall-posts and curious messages about my love life. I'm glad to know my friends are paying close attention.

LETTERS ♦ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

## Yaar, the nerds are alright

I strolled onto campus on Thursday wearing my hot pink "Talk Nerdy To Me" T-shirt, and was barraged with an onslaught of comments insinuating that I was a poseur. WTF? Some people, myself included, have the right to wear those shirts. So what if I don't hide from the opposite sex and have never played D&D? I am a nerd in my own right. I ditched out on bar night this week to go play *Mario Kart*, and last weekend, after a day at the Space and Science Center (where highlights included riding a Segway), I spent my evening updating info on the CompE club website and playing *Minesweeper*. I once got a phone number in binary and couldn't have been happier. I've used pick-up lines which involve integration, I love binary jokes and I celebrate Pi Day. I think guys who read (or write) comics are hot. I dress and talk like a pirate on a regular basis, and the current ringtone on my ridiculously over-equipped and geeky PDA is definitely "White and Nerdy."

Therefore, despite the fact that I'd rather play *Tetris* than D&D, and I'll watch old-school *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles* before *Star Trek*, I think I'm pretty entitled to wear that shirt. So nerd boys, go ahead and discuss the poor continuity of *Enterprise*! I assure you my eyes won't glaze over, but they may wink a little.

DANA MARSH  
Computer Engineering III

## 'Preferential' panel panned

As I recently attended Tuesday's panel discussion and open forum on Canada's role in Afghanistan that was put on by the Muslim Students' Association and

the Edmonton Coalition Against War and Racism, I couldn't help but leave feeling disappointed as the gathering came to a close. As expected, the "discussion" was decidedly preferential, with the overwhelming majority of time allotted going to those in support of a withdrawal from Afghanistan.

Irrespective of this, however, I was ultimately taken aback by the nature of how the forum was moderated. Many individuals who wished to speak were unable to, as our limited time was spent sorting through rounds of childish bickering from members of the audience. This issue is too important to too many people to allow an unmoderated argument to preclude us from discussing the topic at hand.

To the gentleman on the discussion panel who referred to those who display yellow ribbons in support of our troops as war-supporting "hicks," yet leaves unannounced halfway through the discussion: you, sir, have demonstrated a complete lack of sensitivity and shown blatant disregard for the issue at hand. Your comments that afternoon insulted millions of Canadians, and the soldiers they support.

MIKE WILLIAMS  
Arts III

Letters to the editor should be dropped off at room 3-04 of the Students' Union Building, sent via carrier owl or e-mailed to [letters@gateway.ualberta.ca](mailto:letters@gateway.ualberta.ca).

The Gateway reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity, and to refuse publication of any letter it deems racist, sexist, libellous or otherwise hateful in nature. The Gateway also reserves the right to publish letters online.

Letters to the editor should be no longer than 350 words, and should include the author's name, program, year of study and student identification number to be considered for publication.

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